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ESTABLISHED 1880.

FORT WORTH HEREFORD SALE.

At the second days' sale of purebred cattle, held at the Fort Worth Stock yards last week, there were forty head offered, some of the best herds in the Southwest being represented. Among those who offered stock were: Herm Specht, Iowa Park; Whaley & Jones, Gainesville; C. W. Martin, Decatur; M. W. Hovencamp, Keller; Ed. B. Beck, Sulphur Springs; B. C. Rhone, Fort Worth; J. L. Chadwick, Cresson; Willie S. & J. B. Ikard, Henrietta, and Lewis Ikard, Henrietta.

There were buyers present from Florida, also from states above the quarantine line. The average price paid for the offerings was \$106.45.

Seven of the offerings went to Florida, three to the Panhandle above quarantine line and one to Indian Territory.

EXECUTIVE ORDER MODIFIED.

A delegation from Arizona territory, headed by Gov. Brodie, called on Mr. Jones, commissioner of Indian affairs, at Washington last Wednesday and succeeded in securing a modification of an order for the removal of cattle from a portion of the Navajo reservation. They represented to Mr. Jones that it was a physical impossibility to get the cattle all off the reservation at this time of the year without losing a great many by death. They asked for the suspension of the previous order so far as relates to that portion of the reservation lying east of the Little Colorado river, or the southwestern corner of the reservation. About 10,000 cattle are grazing there now, and they will be allowed to remain until further orders.

LITTLE WINTER PASTURING.

Fewer cattle than usual will be moved from Texas to Oklahoma this winter, to be pastured on wheat, according to Dr. Leslie Allen, inspector for the bureau of animal industry. Dr. Allen's headquarters is at Oklahoma City. "The lack of moisture has greatly retarded the growth of wheat this fall and winter," he said last week. "While the plant is healthy in appearance it is short, and very little of it has been pastured. The result of this has been a large falling off in the number of applications for wheat pasturage from Texas cattlemen. Recent rains have benefitted the wheat materially, however."

Dr. Allen says cattle in Oklahoma are in good condition. The winter so far has been favorable for them. The farmers are well supplied with roughage and anticipate no trouble in carrying their live stock through the winter.

TEXAS SWINE BREEDERS.

An institute meeting of the Texas Swine Breeders' association will be held at Plano, Collin county, Tuesday, Jan. 12.

A most interesting program has been prepared and the subject will be handled by practical and successful breeders—men who are authority on the various subjects. Plano is in the heart of the hog growing section of Texas and a large attendance is looked for.

The railroads have liberally offered excursion rates of one and one-third fare, dates of sale Jan. 11 and 12, good returning Jan. 15.

The following is the program:

"Texas vs. the Northern States For Hog Raising," H. B. Singleton, Ma-

Kinney, Tex.; "Value of Improved Breeds Over Scrubs," Geo. B. Simmons, Ben Franklin, Tex.; "Is the Value of Pasture For Hogs Overestimated," Nat Edmondson, Sherman, Tex.; "How to Use Alfalfa For Best Results," J. C. Cobb, Dodd City, Tex.; "Profitable Pork, How to Raise It," C. D. Hughes, Sherman, Tex.; "Balanced Rations a Necessity," Prof. J. H. Connell, Dallas, Tex.; "Improvements For a Hog Farm," Wm. Kerr, Vine-land, Tex.; "Swine Diseases, Prevention and Care," Geo. F. Lillard, Seguin, Tex.; "How I Raised and Fed My Prize Car of Hogs," Ed Edmondson, Newark, Tex.; "How Shall We Promote the Hog Industry," Jno. W. Stewart, Sherman, Tex.; "Selections and Development of Breeding Laws," Walter E. Davis, Sherman, Tex.; "Selection and Development of the Breeding Male," M. M. Offutt, Cleburne, Tex.

QUARANTINE INSPECTION REGULATIONS.

Regulations for the inspection of cattle from below the quarantine line at the Kansas City market are described as follows:

Cattle from the quarantine district accompanied by a clean bill of health issued by an inspector for the bureau of animal industry may be yarded in the native yards at Kansas City without passing any other inspection. Some shippers appear to entertain the idea that after cattle have been inspected by the bureau of animal industry inspector they must pass a second inspection by an inspector for the Kansas live stock sanitary board. This second inspection is entirely unnecessary. They must be inspected by either a B. A. I. inspector or an inspector for the Kansas board if they pass through Kansas en route to market. But a double inspection is not necessary. Chairman Campbell of the Kansas board has notified Col. Albert Dean, live stock agent in charge of the bureau of animal industry, and Eli Titus, general live stock agent of the Santa Fe railroad, that the inspection of the B. A. I. inspectors will be accepted by the Kansas authorities not only on cattle from below the quarantine line, but on cattle from the specially quarantined counties in Texas and Oklahoma.

PARKER COUNTY FARMERS.

At a meeting of farmers held in Weatherford early last week, a co-operative union was formed with W. P. Speight of Latoka as president and G. M. Dick of Millsap as secretary. The next regular meeting will be held Feb. 6. Precinct organizations which will affiliate with the central body have been formed in all parts of the country.

HERE AND THERE.

A "farm hand" that knows how to milk properly, and can always be depended upon to keep dirt from getting into the milk should be regarded as a high grade employe and given a steady job.

Wire gauze and four thicknesses of cheese cloth have been found to make the best milk strainer.

Keep a dust bath within reach of the fowls constantly. They enjoy wallowing and it helps to keep them healthful and free from vermin.

On many dairy farms there is a lamentable waste of time, labor and money. Only when economy is practiced can satisfactory results be obtained.

CONVENTION AND STOCK SHOW.

Extensive preparations are being made for the entertainment of the Oklahoma Cattlemen's association in Oklahoma City, beginning Feb. 23. At last year's meeting nearly 15,000 strangers were in town. This year many visitors are expected from Texas, New Mexico and other states. Polo games, roping contests and military maneuvers by cavalrymen from Fort Sill have been planned for their entertainment. The entertainment and premiums to be given by Oklahoma City this year will cost not less than \$10,000.

In connection with the convention an exhibit of livestock will be held in a barn at the Concord Park, to be constructed especially for that purpose. Oklahoma City will endeavor to make this exhibit the finest ever seen in the entire Southwest, not barring exhibits at Kansas City, Fort Worth and Wichita. Twenty-one silver cups, purchased at a cost of \$2500, will be given as premiums by the chamber of commerce.

HOGS THRIVE ON PECANS.

In Southwest Texas, pecans are being fed to hogs with most satisfactory results. Along the bottom lands of the streams, these trees are thick and the flesh of porkers allowed to forage through the woods and afterwards "finished" on corn has a rich, nutlike flavor extremely pleasing to the taste. The hogs are most successful pecan gatherers. Though covered with leaves or rolled into holes or crannies in the earth, the nuts can not escape the sharp eyes and investigative noses of the industrious food gatherers, which root out the nuts and crunch them with grunts of satisfaction.

R. L. Dunman, a well-known stockman, has sent east for a car load of hogs to use in gathering the pecans on his land. Mr. Dunman has had some experience, and says he finds more profit in gathering pecans by that method than to employ men to gather them and market them at the present price of the nuts. He therefore proposes to obtain enough hogs to gather his entire crop of pecans.

S. R. Munsey, a stockman living near Ballinger, killed three pigs last Tuesday which were a few days over 5 months old and netted 611 pounds for three. He purchased these pigs two months ago and put them at once on heavy feed. On Wednesday he sold the pigs in Ballinger for \$48.50. He made a close estimate on the amount of corn fed the animals and states that he realized just \$1.50 a bushel for the corn he fed to them. Mr. Munsey is also a breeder of fine chickens and also finds them quite profitable.

PRODUCING GOOD BEEF.

Success in the production of beef is governed by the methods pursued at the beginning. One important feature of the business is to have the right kind of an animal—one possessing the desired form combined with plenty of quality, observes an exchange. Bear in mind that width of back, loin, and hindquarters are indispensable in a good steer. The three factors which determine the selling price of a steer on any leading market are percentage—that is, proportion of dressed weight to live weight; quality—that is, a thick covering of good flesh over back and loin, and proportion, which means as much weight as possible in the back, loin, and hindquarters, where the high-priced cuts are to be found. Hav-

ing secured the right kind of an animal, the next point is how to obtain the greatest gain in weight at lowest cost. When feed stuffs were low in price and labor was high a feeder acted wisely if he economized labor at the expense of feed. With corn ranging at from 90 to 95 cents a hundred he can no longer follow such methods. It is then a question of economizing in grain. The feeder must get more pounds of grain from alfalfa and other feed. In this respect there is great need for investigation pertaining to the advisability or non-advisability of feeding lighter grain rations. If fifteen or eighteen pounds of corn daily for each steer will give as good results as twenty-five and thirty pounds, it certainly would be much more economical for the feeder to adopt such methods.

INSTRUCTIVE FEEDING TEST.

An experiment has just been brought to a successful termination by Arthur Wangeman, a prominent ranchman near Beeville, Tex., who claims to have demonstrated that Southern cattle, if properly separated and kept in quarantine for a period of thirty days, can be fed on Northern pastures and marketed in connection with Northern cattle. Calves of quality and breeding are, however, demanded by feeders above the line. Commenting upon this test, the Breeders' Gazette says:

"Then there is the intensely interesting experiment of John G. Imboden, in Illinois, with below quarantine cattle. He bought up his calves from near Beeville (Wangeman ranch) last January. They were loaded with ticks. He left them on. Of course, they soon dropped off and perished. The cattle were fed corn and cob meal during the winter, with four pounds of wheat bran and one-half pound of oil cake. Shredded corn stover was the hay. They summered in the feed lot on alfalfa hay and the same grain rations, save that later the oil cake was increased to two pounds daily. They had no ticks on them last summer. They had the run of an alfalfa stubble containing little feed. They weighed 1005 pounds. They gained over two pounds per day each since coming north. Below the quarantine are great ranches of cattle—the King, Joseph F. Green's ranch and many others. If these calves can safely come to our farms in winter time and make such gains as this, it is a place to set a peg. These yearlings of Imboden's were just right to make profitable killing cattle in the Chicago market with less than one year's feeding."

The cattle, which were high grade Herefords, brought \$6.05 per hundred, live weight, an average of \$60.50 each.

FORMER OHIOANS IN TEXAS.

The 10,000-acre tract lying between four to eight miles east of Victoria, Tex., which was recently purchased by Nolling Bros. for a colony of Ohio farmers, has presented an animated scene of late. Between twenty to twenty-five teams have been and are at work hauling the material from the near-by station to the colony tract, where a large force of men are engaged in erecting houses and barns for the colonists.

The colonists who number 77 people, mostly Germans and Hungarians, and who were quartered at the Denver hotel in Victoria, awaiting the erection of their houses, have now all moved, to their newly acquired homes. They seem to be well pleased with this country.

DANIEL J. SULLY ON THE COTTON SITUATION.

Deterioration of the cotton crop through the planting of inferior seed, year after year, is designated as "the real menace to the cotton situation" by Daniel J. Sully, the famous bull operator, who writes on this subject as follows:

The present serious condition in the cotton markets of the world and the danger threatening the textile industry of the United States, of England, France, Germany, Russia, Switzerland and Spain can be traced to only one cause—the sterilization or impoverishment of the cotton seed. Serious as is the situation to-day, and high as prices are, the situation will be more serious and the prices higher and higher each year until measures are taken by which proper seed can be planted for the growth of the cotton crop.

Paradoxical as it may seem, the curtailment of the cotton crop is a natural result of the growth of the cotton seed industry. A quarter of a century ago the cotton seed was the bane of the cotton planter. He had great difficulty in getting rid of his surplus seed. It was burned, cast into the rivers, used to fill gullies and hollows and hauled away at no little expense. But since the discovery of the uses of cotton seed oil, cotton seed hulls and cotton seed meal the demand for the seed has grown to great proportions. The South is dotted with cotton seed oil mills, and what was once regarded as refuse now brings nearly \$100,000,000 a year to the South.

This would be a magnificent asset were it not for the fact that the oil mills demand the heaviest and richest of the seed, leaving only the poorest for the planter to put back in the ground for the planting of his next crop. The fierceness of competition is such and the prices paid for seed are so large that within the last five or six years the planters have impoverished their seed supply to the utmost limit. Poor seed brings a poor cotton yield. Increased acreage is no remedy, even if it were possible under present conditions to extend the acreage much beyond its present limits.

Thoughtful men of the South see no prospect of a change in the immediate future. Surely none can be expected as long as the spinners have to scramble for cotton to keep their mills going and the cotton seed mills pay top-notch prices for their supplies.

The statistics of the last six or seven years show more conclusively than anything I could say how important a part this impoverishment of the cotton seed is playing in cotton affairs. Since 1897 the acreage planted to cotton in the United States has been increased from 24,000,000 to approximately 28,000,000 acres. Yet the yield has steadily decreased. In 1897 the South raised 11,200,000 bales of cotton on an acreage of 24,000,000. This season, with an acreage of 28,000,000, the government's estimate is 9,962,000 bales. Take the average yield an acre year by year and the deterioration is shown more convincingly.

In 1897-98 the yield of lint per acre planted was 224 pounds. In 1898-99, it was 232; in 1899-00, 210; in 1900-01, 211; in 1901-02, 188; in 1902-03, 188; in 1903-04 (government estimate), 176.

But even these figures do not show the real decrease in the yield per acre. In 1897, and 1898 cotton was extremely cheap, and what represented hundreds of thousands of bales of lint were left unpicked in the field, because the planters did not think it would pay for the picking. This season, however, there

isn't a cotton plant in the South that hasn't been picked of every ounce of its product.

The world absolutely requires 10,700,000 bales of cotton this season. It could use 12,000,000 bales, and there would be no surplus.

Cotton is the most valuable money crop of the world to-day. It is used in more of the world's staples than any other of the earth's products. Its uses are constantly widening, and yet we are face to face with the condition of a constantly shortening crop. It is idle to charge the big advance in prices to manipulation of the market, to weather conditions in the cotton belt, to lack of moisture, lateness of planting or to any other of the stock causes. Every student of the cotton world who gives serious consideration to the subject will come to the basic trouble of the impoverishment of the seed.

This subject is of far greater importance than the average man realizes. It is of as great importance to the North as to the South, not only because of the manufacturing industries of the North that are dependent upon the cotton crop, but because everybody wears cotton goods and because the financial world depends upon the cotton crop to maintain the financial parity between this country and Europe. Without our cotton the money market of the United States would be in a sad way. Cotton bills are payable in gold, and it is through the payment for cotton exported to Europe that we maintain our gold balance with the rest of the world.

You cannot look for any change in the South until the danger from the impoverishment of the cotton seed is brought home to the planter. At present he is blind to this menace. The present crop will bring to him at least \$150,000,000 more than any other crop he ever raised. That would seem to prove that he is favored by fortune. The crop of next year perhaps will bring even much greater returns. But there is an end to all things, and sooner or later it will be realized that what is now a godsend may bring about disaster.

The world must have cotton. If it cannot get enough from the South it will get it elsewhere. It is true all efforts to find cotton land equal to that of the South have failed, some by reason of transportation difficulties and some from other causes, climatic and otherwise. Man is ingenious and persevering, however, and should a cotton famine extend over a period of ten or more years we will find a rival of the South developing in some other land.

In the interim America's manufacturing is growing, and it is confidently expected that before other countries can be made to produce cotton American mills will require practically all the raw material this country can produce under present methods.

To-day the American cotton makes up nearly 85 per cent of the cotton that is grown. Egypt grows a long staple cotton that is used in the finest of goods. India grows a short staple cotton that is used in the coarsest of goods. America grows the staple crop that is the medium between the Indian and the Egyptian, and is the great commercial necessity of the textile world. There is a distinct relationship between the American and the other crops, each having a bearing upon the other and the Egyptian and the Indian planter share relatively in whatever condition affects each distinct growth.

The curtailment of the American crop will stimulate the East Indian to raising all the cotton possible, but that cannot affect the situation to any material degree. Neither can any possible increase in the Egyptian output alter the situation. The whole world depends upon the South.

We have been quoted as predicting that within the next four or five years cotton would sell at 25 cents a pound. This may seem extravagant to those who do not realize the extent to which the sterilization of the seed in the South has been carried or the extent to which the growth of the textile industry and the use of cotton has been developed. No one can accurately measure the demand for cotton who does not take into consideration the steady widening of its uses and the hundred or more industries into which cotton enters in one form or another.

If there is any one who doubts that to the seed the curtailment of the cotton crop is due primarily and chiefly, I need only refer him to the annual report of George A. Morrison, president of the American Cotton Oil company, which was published less than one month ago. In it he says:

"The decrease in surplus earnings of the American Cotton Oil company is attributed to extreme competition for cotton seed and the seed proving to be of poor quality, producing oil of inferior grade and less than normal quantities to the ton."

So you see that even the cotton seed mills are feeling the effect. When the best of the seed is of poor quality, what can be said of that which is left for the planter and for Mother Earth to bring forth another cotton crop?

ONION CULTURE UNDER IRRIGATION.

Methods by which onion culture is successfully conducted on the truck farm of T. C. Nye near Laredo, on the Rio Grande, are graphically described by a correspondent of the Dallas News:

Mr. Nye is planting about fourteen

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1000 other articles, Big Catalog Free. Special Catalogues of Buggies, Harness, Steel Ranges, Best Walking Cultivator, 4 shovel, \$12.00. Best Walking Cultivator, 4 shovel and Eagle Claw, \$15.25. Improved Riding Cultivator, 4 shovel \$19.00. Improved Riding Disc Cultivator, 6 Disc, \$26.00. Corn Planter, complete, 80 rods wire, \$27.75. Address		14 in. Imp. Liger \$17.75

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of T. C. Nye near Laredo, on the Rio Grande valley land, 65 feet above the river, from which his truck farm is irrigated. His onion beds are laid off in lengths of from 300 to 350 feet, and from 25 to 30 feet in width. This land is heavily manured every three years; the manure is brought mostly in carloads from the stock pens in San Antonio (cow manure much preferred). A few days before planting these beds are flooded from the irrigation ditches and as soon as dry enough they are turned over with a two-horse plow then harrowed and raked until the soil is well pulverized, and the beds brought to as near a level as possible. Now the planting force is organized, with generally twelve men to the gang. The bed being ready, three men with a quarter-inch white cotton rope, as long as the beds, commencing on the side, stretch the rope perfectly tight from one end of the bed to the other. Along this rope every four inches a red mark is made with a paint brush. As soon as this rope is in position three men are provided with sticks sharpened at one end to make a hole about one inch square and so guarded with a crosspiece fastened on the sharpened end that the hole can not be made deeper than three inches. These men traverse the length of the rope, sticking a hole with great dexterity at each marked place on the rope, which at first places the onion sets four inches apart, but when the rope is well stretched from use these distances lengthen to five inches. As soon as the whole stickers have finished the rope is moved exactly twelve inches, which will be the width of the rows. When these hole-makers have got a good start the planting commences; one set of men take the young plants (the bulb being about the size of a lead pencil from the beds where the seed

were planted in October, and after clipping off the stems to about one inch in length and the roots half inch in length they are turned over to others, who set them into the holes prepared as already described. Behind these setters follow men who, being provided with a small flattened stick, press the dirt in the hole close up against the bulb and roots of the onion. Behind the planters follow men who push a two-wheel hand plow provided with a miniature buzzard wing sweep, which straddles the young onions and loosens the earth (which the planters have unavoidably packed with their feet). The blades of this sweep are of sufficient length to loosen the whole between the twelve-inch onion rows. As a fixed rule with Mr. Nye these onions are irrigated and worked every fourteen days until they are ready, about the middle of April, to market. He says that all onions ask for is plenty of moisture around the roots and plenty of sunshine on their tops. Too much cloudy weather ruins the crop. As an evidence in dry winters and springs Mr. Nye has gathered 48,000 pounds of Bermuda Whites off an acre of ground, whereas in those seasons, where cloudy weather prevailed, notably last winter and spring, he did not realize an average of 18,000 pounds to the acre. In concluding he emphasizes the absolute necessity of keeping the ground flat in cultivating, as the bulb of the onion to mature to perfection must grow upon the top of the ground, and if these bulbs are covered up with earth in cultivation you can not expect to make good onions. Mr. Nye in addition to his great success in growing Bermuda onions, is making money with his grapes, strawberries, tomatoes and sweet potatoes. About 4 per cent of irrigated ground is taken up in embankments around the beds and water ditches.

AGRICULTURE.

PROTEIN CONTENT OF VARIOUS CROPS.

Protein is the ingredient in cotton seed meal, peas, grain and bran which puts flesh upon the cattle. The farmer can grow the crops that will do both of these. Prof. W. F. Massey explains the method by which this may be done, as follows:

To the stockfeeder and dairyman there is nothing more important than the getting a supply of the protein part of this ration. Dairyman, especially, buy a great deal of bran and other food rich in protein for the purpose of balancing their rations. They have long considered that this is a necessary part of their expenses. Then if some one would tell them how to get this expensive protein without cost, but in the growing of it to get enough benefit to the soil to pay all the cost of the feed he should properly be regarded as a benefactor. Now, this is just what the experiment stations have been doing. Some years ago experiments were made at the Delaware station in which it was shown that cow pea hay and ensilage could profitably take the place of purchased bran and other protein foods. It was shown that cows that had for some time been getting the protein of their food from bran were changed from bran to cowpea hay containing a similar percentage of protein, and they kept up in

the milk production as well as when fed bran, and later when returned to the bran they fell off in milk yield. More recently the Tennessee station has been experimenting in the same line. The following is the table they give of the digestible matter in the legume hay, per ton.

	Dry	Pro-	Car-	Nutri-
	matter.	tein.	bohy-	Fat.
	lbs.	lbs.	drates.	lbs.
	ratio.			
Alfalfa	1832	211.6	746.6	27.6
Cowpea	1786	215.8	763.0	30.2
R. Clover	1674	131.6	707.0	33.2

This table shows that 1.16 pounds of cowpea hay contain as much protein as one pound of bran, or 3.25 pounds of cotton seed meal. The bran costs on an average about \$16 per ton, and much more in some places. There is hardly a farm in the South or in the southern parts of the Middle states where cowpea hay cannot be made at a cost of \$3 per ton. At the rate of two tons per acre, we have from the acre 431.6 pounds of protein is a digestible form. This is equal to within 48.8 pounds of the amount of protein in two tons of wheat bran. The two tons of wheat bran at a low price would be worth \$32 on the market. These two tons of cowpea hay cost the farmer \$6. But this is not all. In the growing of that pea hay the farmer has left in his soil for future crops in the form of organic matter, as much ammonia as he would put in a ton of complete fertilizer of the usual grade.

As a ton of each fertilizer will average at least \$20, and generally more, and the nitrogen in it will cost as much as both the other, here will be a gain of \$10 to his land while growing feed for stock worth \$6. Nor is this all. If he feeds the hay judiciously and saves the manure carefully his soil gains fully one-half or more of the value of the feed, and he has evidently made a large saving over the buying of the protein, in the form of bran. In these times of high prices for feed is it not to the interest of the dairyman to grow his protein when he can do it, and at the same time not only save putting out money, but can improve his soil at the same time. The growing of these legumes then becomes of the highest importance to the stockman and dairyman. The cowpea, as shown by the table, is the richest of all. But the cowpea is not adapted to so wide a range of climate as the alfalfa and red clover, and it is only a question as to whether the cows can be made to consume in the form of alfalfa and red clover as much protein as would be needed for the best production. Alfalfa and red clover can be grown all over the North, and alfalfa, too, all over the South. But in the South, for feeding purposes, the cowpea has a greater value than alfalfa per ton, though on limited areas of very fertile soil the alfalfa will make the heavier crop during the season.

But while all these legumes are collectors of nitrogen from the air they are all of them the greediest consumers of the mineral matters in the soil, and to be able to do their best, both in the production of forage and in the fixation of nitrogen they must have an abundant supply of phosphoric acid and potash available in the soil for their use. Supplied with these they will do the rest. Hence we see that the real place for the use of commercial fertilizer is on these crops which, through their growth, not only feed the stock, but feed the land and through the feeding of the stock, enable the farmer to increase his manurial accumulation and get more and more independent of the fertilizer manufacturer.

The great lack of most of our soils is phosphoric acid, but it is found that when this is applied alone there is not near the result unless a sufficient supply of potash is also given. Alfalfa and red clover are both helped by an application of lime, but on the other hand the cowpea is injured in its growth by the direct application of lime. Why so, we cannot say, but know it to be a fact. Hence even in the red clay soils of the South where there is a store of potash in the form of an insoluble silicate, it is advisable to apply to the cowpea a proper percentage of potash with the best phosphoric acid. For the best results on the sandy soils of the South, where the

cowpea flourishes best, and where the soil is more deficient in potash than the red clay soils, it will pay well to apply to the cowpea crop 400 pounds per acre of acid phosphate and muriate of potash mixed at the rate of five parts of the acid phosphate to one part of the muriate. Such an application will give a heavy crop of forage, and will, through the greater root development, increase the amount of nitrogen fixed in the soil. Thus the stockman and dairyman cannot only get protein for their cattle ration-free, but can actually make a profit in the getting of it.

PREVENTION OF OAT SMUT.

Farmers who grow oats know how much grain is at times destroyed by smut; the amount of smut ranges from almost nothing to one-third, or, in extreme cases, even one-half, the entire yield. On an average it is computed that this loss is not less than 6 per cent of the annual Ohio oat crop, or \$450,000 or \$500,000 each year. This loss is practically all preventable by a simple method of treating the seed oats to kill the smut spores, which are sown with the seed only, and the experiment station has proven this method to its entire satisfaction. This is known as the formalin method of Bolley. Formalin is a clear liquid, a solution of formaldehyde in water, and may be purchased at drug stores for about 50 cents per pound. Each pound is sufficient to stir 50 gallons of water, and will treat 50 bushels of seed oats. One ounce is enough for three gallons of water and will treat three bushels of oats. The amount purchased will be determined by the number of bushels of oats to be treated. Formalin is not poisonous, though not wholesome. It is well to avoid smelling of the strong solution as purchased, because it is irritating to the nostrils. The very dilute solution used for oat smut is not objectionable.

Having the solution made at the rate of one ounce of formalin to three gallons of water, well stirred, and a gallon of solution to each bushel of seed to be treated, apply this with a sprinkling can to the oats in piles on a tight floor. Grain piles should not exceed six bushels, and the number of piles will follow from the amount of seed. Sprinkle each pile in turn, shoveling thoroughly, knowing how much solution is applied. Continue in each case until the solution tends to run out on the floor despite the shoveling. Usually a half gallon or more per bushel may be sprinkled on the first round, when the one pile is passed for a few minutes while another is handled in the same way. Upon a second sprinkling of each pile as much solution is used as will be held. Then with a third or fourth repetition the gallon per bushel may be used. After this shovel over and leave in low, flat piles over night, or for not less than four hours. The seed may then be spread thin on a floor and shoveled over occasionally to dry out for drilling, or it may be sown wet if broadcasted. If in weather when proper drying of the seed is secured, the treatment of the seed may precede the time of sowing by some weeks. Seed treated in this manner is not poisonous, though scarcely suitable to be fed to horses.—Ohio Experiment Station.

Farmers of the Kiowa country held a largely attended institute at Hobert, Okla., last week, addresses being delivered by Secretary J. B. Thoburn of the territorial board of agriculture, and Director John Fields of the Stillwater experiment station.

It is estimated that the number of cattle fed in Texas this winter will be about 125,000 head, or only 60 per cent of the average, the falling off being attributable largely to the decline in the market and increase in the price of cottonseed products.

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POULTRY

Roosts for poultry should all be placed on a level, so that there can be no preferred position.

One of the best investments that a poultry fancier can make is to put a "V" into a good cock. "The male is half the flock."

Sick fowls ought never to be permitted to eat or drink from the same vessels as the other members of the flock. Most poultry ills are contagious.

EGG-PRODUCING STRAINS.

Among poultry fanciers much has been done to develop particular strains of fowls inside the established breeds. For the most part these strains have had reference more to form than to egg production. So far as is publicly known, there are few strains that have been well-developed along the egg-laying lines, though most handlers of poultry will insist that they are breeding with this partly in view. It would take generations of breeding to make a really valuable strain, but the result would pay well in the production of eggs. We believe the average fowl of any breed is a poor egg producer, but in every breed are possibilities of immense improvement. We see it frequently stated that a Plymouth Rock will lay 150 eggs a year. Yet the man that takes a flock and counts their eggs, as produced during the year generally finds that he has received less than 125 eggs per bird. In some cases we have known the average number to fall below 100. On the other hand, individual Plymouth Rocks have been

POULTRY.

SOME REMARKS

About Chickens—We have for sale 1500 fine one-year-old chickens, full-blooded, guaranteed to score not less than 89 to 90 points, of 30 different varieties. Also have 3000 very fine half-grown chicks of all breeds that we offer for sale now. All of the high bred stock guaranteed to give good satisfaction and safe arrival. Remember you save express charge if you order chickens now and the weather is very favorable to ship them this fall. Please send for one of our catalogues, in which you will find cuts and laying strain of every breed we offer for sale, also prices and a good many other things useful for poultry raising. Please give us a trial order; we will please you. Our stock is all farm raised and healthy. Price for catalogue is four cents. We also have geese, ducks and turkeys of all breeds for sale, young and old as preferred. Find price in catalogue. We thank the people of Texas for the many orders they gave us last year, and if any of them are not well pleased, don't be afraid to call on us; we are always willing to make every shipment satisfactory. Yours respectfully—W. SEIDEL, Proprietor, Elroy, Ill.

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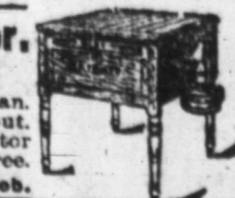
THE Norton Poultry Farm, Breeders of Brown, Buff and Black Leghorns, Eggs \$2.00 and \$3.00 for 15, and White P. Rocks Eggs \$2.00 for 15. Fine stock for sale at reasonable prices. State agents for the Prairie State Incubators and Brooders. Shipped from Dallas at factory prices. Send for free catalogue. Also carry in stock Chamberlain's Perfect Chick Feed, Mica Crystal Grits, Ground Oyster Shell, Lambert's Death to Lice, powder and liquid form, and Humphrey's Green Bone and Vegetable Cutters. THE NORTON POULTRY FARM, Box 622, Dallas, Tex.

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known to lay 238 eggs in a year, more than 100 above the average. With this breed, as well as with several other breeds, it would certainly be possible to develop a strain that would lay on the average annually 200 eggs per bird. As these extra eggs would be practically all profit, one can see the advantage of handling such a strain of birds.

POULTRY-KEEPING AS A BUSINESS.

The supposition that there are enormous profits in poultry and that any one can get rich by investing therein is going to an extreme. It is true that there is a larger profit to be made from poultry in proportion to the capital invested, than in the majority of pursuits, if given the same care and management but there are limits to all enterprises, and poultry is no exception.

Many things are to be considered and especially this time of the year. The first thing to do, however, is to build a poultry house. It is wisest to see different poultry houses in operation before building and thus save a great deal of trouble afterward. The greatest mistakes are made in the beginning and there is possibly not one who has gone into the poultry business with no experience without regretting his own mode of management and who could not suggest to himself a great many things to do next year.

The amateur poultry man must learn something about the different breeds of poultry before selecting a particular kind. He should have an object in view. If he desires to make eggs a specialty he should select the breeds that are the best layers. If he wishes chicks and poultry for market he would have to have a very different strain of fowls. The main point to impress on beginners is that no one breed has all the requisites for laying, table use or as breeders. But by judicious crossing the good qualities of different birds may be blended to produce a chick like the one desired.

SOME FACTS ABOUT LICE.

Lice may be found on the bodies of fowls at all seasons of the year. While lice multiply very rapidly in summer, they also multiply some during the cold period of the year. The little red mites are more prevalent in summer, existing mostly in the poultry house, and are not difficult to eradicate. The real enemies are the lice which do not leave the bodies of the fowls, some kinds working on the feathers. Examination of the heads, under the wings, along the backs and around the vents will nearly always disclose their presence. Remedies are not difficult to find. A thorough drenching of the poultry house with kerosene emulsion, to which a little crude carbolic acid has been added, will prove very effectual against the red mites and other intruders of the poultry house if done every week, while even ordinary melted lard is effectual in destroying lice on the bodies, though linseed oil, applied with a sewing machine oil can, is perhaps better. These remedies are mentioned because they are simple. The advertised lice killers are also excellent. No kind of oil or grease should be used too freely on the bodies of fowls or chicks. The difficulty is that farmers and poultrymen as a rule do not employ any remedy at all until lice have gotten the mastery of the fowls and the flock is being thinned out by death. Young turkeys and young chicks quickly succumb to lice, for as soon as the chicks are hatched the lice leave the dams and infest the young ones. The dust bath, cleanliness in the poultry house, examination of the fowls once a week and prompt work as soon as evidence of lice appears will save not only the young birds, but also increase the number of eggs, as well as promote thrift in the flock. The best remedy is prompt attention and no delay in preventing lice from getting a foothold. —American Poultry Advocate.

CULLING THE FLOCK.

There are applications of the principle of selection which may profitably be employed by the farm poultry keeper. The influence of natural selection is by no means limited to the phenomena of reproduction. Indeed, if the



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theory of natural selection supposed the operation of the principle more energetic at one stage of life than at another, that was the growing stage, and particularly the earlier part of it. The phrase, "survival of the fittest," inevitably suggests the destruction of the unfit. Yet this is the point where nearly all poultry growers, whether farmers or fanciers, seem to come to a standstill. There are few who will not admit that it is better for the brood and flock, more profitable for the keeper, and kinder to the chick itself, to kill the weakly chicks as soon after hatching as their weakness is discovered; and to follow this by taking away from the flock every chick that fails to grow properly, and so lags behind the rest in development. But it is a very rare thing to find a poultry keeper who will do this. The usual practice is to let everything live until it is marketable—or dies from natural causes.

And it is just this that is responsible for more than half of the troubles people have in growing chickens. It is on the weak and puny chick, that has not life and strength enough to dust itself, that lice increase, until they become numerous enough to worry the strong chicks. It is the weaker chick that develops distempers and diarrhoeas, and poisons the air for the others with its fetid breath, and makes the coop or brooder foul with its slimy discharges. It is after the weak chicks that one must be constantly cleaning up; their presence in a flock is always adding to the poultry keeper's burden. I never could understand why people should be so reluctant to kill a fowl or animal which they knew was not fit to live, and probably would not live to meet the use for which it had been produced.

When we plant seed, we plant enough to allow for the failure of a great many more plants than can be properly grown on the allotted ground. Then, as the plants grow, they are thinned out, all the weak and unthrifty ones being uprooted like weeds, and no more of the thrifty spared than can make good growth. The same thing should be done with the chickens. No unthrifty ones should be allowed on the premises, and the thrifty and vigorous should not be overcrowded. If they are, they do not long remain vigorous and thrifty.

Besides being a constant menace to the welfare of the flock and a burden to the caretaker, the weakly and runty chickens are rather costly property. It takes a great deal more food to make meat on them than on strong and thrifty chickens. No scientific experiment is needed to demonstrate this. Anyone who has weakly chickens in his flock can demonstrate the matter for himself by separating them, by taking an equal number of healthy chicks of the same age, and noting how the two lots eat and how they grow. The weakly lot will eat nearly if not quite as much as the others, and hardly grow at all; while the others are gaining perhaps over an ounce a day. When finally the weak ones that live have attained marketable size, they will in most cases have cost more than they will bring, and they never make good poultry. The loss on them is least when they are cleared out as early as possible. Not one time in ten is anything gained by keeping them, in the expectation of finally realizing a little something on them. It is safe to say that this class of losses cuts the profit of nearly all poultry keepers far more severely than they realize.

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Immune Shorthorn cattle. Foundation consists of get of Mr. Leonard's "Lavender Viscount," and Mr. Gentry's noted bull "Victorious." A few bull calves for sale. Write for prices. **J. W. CAREY**, Armstrong, I. T.

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SCOTCH AND SCOTCH TOPPED SHORT HORNS AND POLAND CHINA HOGS FOR SALE.

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WM. D. & GEORGE CRAIG, Graham, Tex., on Rock Island railroad, below quarantine line, breeders of registered Shorthorns and double-standard Felled-Durhams. Young bulls and heifers of serviceable age, our own raising, for sale. All of the oldest and best Shorthorn tribes and of the choicest breeding. Correspondence invited and all inquiries answered.

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A successful advertisement is the advertisement that reaches the buyer and tells the whole story briefly and clearly, just when he wants to buy. Frequently accidents make it necessary for a breeder to buy a herd bull or boar on short notice. Possibly he has seen your advertisement long ago and forgotten it, but just when he has no time to lose your calendar would be before him, showing pictures of your herd bull, etc. The calendar in the homes and offices the whole year costs but 10 cents and will sell your bull or boar for what he is worth. If you have a well known sire or show animal every breeder wants his picture, and even the mere fancier admires animal studies. Any calendar hanging upon the wall showing an artistic engraving of your animal will be seen by a great many people who are interested in your breed of stock. **W. A. ROBERTS**, animal artist, can furnish these calendars with your animal pictures, made from life or photo, on them. Write for sample.

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Oscar Cain of Sonora, bought 32 head of cows from R. F. Halbert at \$13 per head.

Parkinson & Wynn of Sonora purchased 100 cows and heifers in Val Verde county at \$12.50 around.

C. W. Horne of Hereford has sold 1200 prime short two-year-old steers at \$14.75 and will market about the same number soon. They are to be fed at Pekin, Ill., and marketed next summer in Chicago.

President Roosevelt ate Texas beef at his Christmas dinner last Thursday. **D. W. Blake** of Lyndon, Ohio, who fed the **J. A.** steers, which took first prize in their class at the International, furnished it and if this state gets her deserts the president will in his acknowledgment to Mr. Black admit that Texas breeds the best beef in the world.

Lee Snyder of Eldorado sold 150 calves to **C. B. Snyder** of Albany at \$10 a head. This is a fine lot of calves, all black mulles. The purchaser intends to put these calves on feed at Albany and will drive them overland to that point, starting from San Angelo about Jan. 15.

SALES AT ST. LOUIS.

Some sales of quarantine cattle at the St. Louis stock yards last week were as follows:

Naylor, Jones & Gibson, Wagner, I. T., 227 steers, 1056 pounds average, at \$3.50; **O'Connor & Baldrige**, Pine Bluff, Ark., 88 steers, 1028 lbs. av., at \$3.45; 88 steers, 1055 lbs. av., at \$3.45; **C. A. Searle**, Osage Junction, O. T., 35 steers, 1000 lbs. av., at \$3.65; 30 steers, 1172 lbs. av., at \$3.90; **J. T. Davis**, San Angelo, Tex., 88 cows, 880 lbs. av., at \$2.30; **J. G. Yates**, San Angelo, Tex., 56 cows, 765 lbs. av., at \$2.35; **J. M. Dobie**, Driscoll, Tex., 72 steers, 912 lbs. av., at \$3.05; **W. C. Fullelove**, Colorado, Tex., 32 cows, 650 lbs. av., \$2.40; 7 steers, 661 lbs. \$3.00; 16 cows, 603 lbs. av., \$2.00; 5 cows, 660 lbs. av., \$2.85; 2 calves, 115 lbs. av., \$4.75 per cwt; **W. H. Harris**, Colorado, Tex., 19 cows, 615 lbs. av., \$2.15; **Hayes Bros.**, Inez, Tex., 71 calves, 200 lbs. \$6.00 each; **First National bank**, Dodds, Tex., 36 cows, 759 lbs. av., \$2.25; **J. E. Chandler**, Eakota, Tex., 16 steers, 691 lbs. av., \$2.85; 22 cows, 695 lbs. \$2.25; **J. Crabtree**, Eufala, I. T., 24 steers, 845 lbs. av., \$3.10; 28 cows, 821 lbs. av., \$2.60; 3 cows, 1053 lbs., \$2.30; **Houston & Alexander**, Midland, Tex., 82 cows, 694 lbs. av., \$2.25.

SALES AT KANSAS CITY.

Some sales in quarantine division at Kansas City last week:

G. W. Young, Berwyn, I. T., 97 steers, 988 pounds average, at \$3.40; 1 bull, 1430 lbs. av., at \$2.75. **S. P. Reed**, Miami, I. T., 2 steers, 955 lbs. av., at \$3.00; 1 cow, 1060 lbs. av., at \$2.65. **W. H. Mann**, Holdenville, 29 cows, 738 lbs. av., at \$2.25; 1 bull, 1350 lbs. av., at \$3.00. **Johnson Bros.**, Minco, 113 steers, 1052 lbs. av., at \$3.60; 26 cows, 882 lbs. av., at \$2.50; 12 bulls, 1353 lbs. av., at \$2.75. **E. O. Lockhausen**, Haymond, I. T., 83 heifers, 503 lbs. av., at \$2.40; 25 steers, 742 lbs. av., at \$2.75; 66 calves, 272 lbs. av., at \$3.00; 82 canners, 553 lbs. av., at \$2.15; 329 canners, 599 lbs. av., at \$2.00. **Silberstein & Weatherby**, Ninnekah, 26 canners, 757 lbs. av., at \$2.15. **First National Bank**, Walters, O. T., 37 canners, 639 lbs. av., at \$1.95. **W. F. Williams**, Minco, I. T., 24 steers, 1046 lbs. av., at \$3.60.

One good cow, well and judiciously fed, will yield a profit, while three scrubs, poorly fed, will not produce as much, and will be a dead loss, as they will not produce enough to pay for their feed, even at producers' rates, and will not even be fit to sell to the butcher

At the roping contest in Odessa Christmas, the first prize, \$100, went to **Hugh Bostick** of Big Springs, on a score of 27 1/2 seconds.

Sam Butman of Merkel, will put 100 head of steers on feed at Abilene in a few days, and is preparing to get a shipment of fat cows off to market as soon as he can obtain the necessary care.

Col. W. R. McEntire of Dallas, will feed about 400 head of cattle on his ranch in Mitchell county this winter. He says the situation is not very promising, but that he has seen the cattle industry in much worse shape than at present.

The **Cheidley Cattle company** of Sturgis, S. D., which was organized about twenty years ago, with a capital of \$500,000, has sold its cattle to private parties and will retire from the range. It has paid out in dividends \$1,000,000. All of the original incorporators are dead.

I. C. Peterson, who recently sold 300 acres of land five miles north of San Angelo at \$11 per acre, has closed a deal by which he purchased 3317 acres of land near Miles, being the entire holdings of **J. N. McLeod**, the pioneer settler of that locality, for \$26,000. **Currier & Thames**, the hustling San Angelo land agents, made the trade. **McLeod's** intention is to take a trip to Scotland in the near future and return to the San Angelo country and reinvest later.

STOCK YARD NOTES.

M. S. Garvin of Coma, Tex., sold last Wednesday 117 pigs averaging 114 pounds at \$4.50.

Wm. Pape had in from **Kremlin**, O. T., 103 hogs averaging 200 pounds, which sold at \$4.52 1/2.

Green & Son, from **Coyle**, O. T., had in 81 hogs averaging 199 pounds and 8 88-pound pigs, which sold at \$4.55.

Turner & Crowder of Elk City, O. T., were represented Thursday by 74 hogs averaging 223 pounds, which sold at \$4.60.

H. E. Johnson of Minco, I. T., was represented last Wednesday with 64 hogs averaging 260 pounds, which sold at \$4.52 1/2.

C. C. Wilson from **Pawnee**, O. T., had in 86 hogs averaging 189 pounds, with 7 140-pound pigs, which topped the market at \$4.62 1/2.

Marion Sansom drove in from his feed lots near Fort Worth 70 head of fed cows, that sold at \$2.60. One bunch of 30 averaged 1060 and 40 averaged 1011 pounds.

MISCELLANEOUS STOCK NOTES. **March Bros.** of San Angelo, sold the **W. A. Miers** wool clip at 11 1/2.

M. D. Williams of near Sidney, reports having sold in eighteen months pigs from one sow which netted him \$218, afterwards disposing of his sow for \$20.

The latest attempt to throttle the packing combine is heralded from **Zion City, Ill.**, where **John Alexander Dowie** is reported to have laid plans for conducting a slaughtering industry of his

HEREFORD HOME HERD, Channing, Hartley county, Texas. **Wm. Powell**, proprietor. Herd established in 1863. My herd consists of 400 head of the best strains, individuals from all the well known families of the breed. I have on hand and for sale at all times cattle of both sexes. Pasture close to town. I have some 100 bulls for sale and 100 head of choice yearling heifers, all Texas raised. Bulls by carloads a specialty.

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own. Hogs will, of course, be strictly tabooed, as **Dr. Dowie** considers them unclean.

A firm of **Lawton** butchers have on exhibition the largest animal ever slaughtered in Oklahoma. It is of the **Durham** strain and has been on full feed for a year. The animal came from **Comanche county** and weighed, dressed, 1346 pounds.

Leading advocates of reforestation are urging the planting of the **Eucalyptus** on the great plains in West Texas. It is a stately tree, of great value for fuel and lumber, and easily grown from one year plants or seed.

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DAIRY

Milk or cream will keep sweet longest when cooled immediately after being drawn from the cow.

It is important that the cream should be churned as soon as sufficiently ripened, otherwise the quality of the butter will be affected.

DAIRYING OR BEEF MAKING.

A western dairy company makes the following comparison between dairying and feeding for beef:

A cow that will give a gallon of milk (8 60-100 pounds) at a milking or (17 and one-fifth pounds daily) yields 500 pounds a month. At an average test of 3.8 per cent she will earn from \$3.23 to \$4.56 per month on the basis of the prices paid for butter fat in 1900. The feed that will produce a pound of dressed beef will make one pound of 20-cent butter fat.

That the most practical and economical way for the dairyman is to separate his milk on the farm as soon as he is through milking.

That it is costing the price of one cow every year to haul the milk of five cows to the station, (and we suppose they mean the creamery as well.)

That a centrifugal cream separator will more than pay for itself every year if one has but three to five cows.

That you cannot afford to feed sixteen to twenty cent butter fat to a four or five cent calf when there is an abundance of cheaper feed to raise him on.

That when you feed a steer until he is three years old he is worth from \$20 to \$60.

That he goes to market and takes your corn with him leaving you nothing.

That you can milk that much money out of a good cow in one year and still have the cow left.

FEEDING CALVES FOR VEAL.

A dairyman, discussing the ways and means of increasing the profits of the dairy farm, advocates turning the calves into veal. He says:

On dairy farms where either milk is sold or butter made, it is often a perplexing question to know what is the best way to dispose of the calves. In some cases they are deaconed; in others sold for 50 cents or \$1, and in some cases given away. In this connection I wish to call your attention to the results of some experiments in which was determined the value of milk and butter when fed to young calves for the production of veal.

The American dairyman does not pay the attention to raising veal that some of the dairymen do in Europe, and as a consequence does not produce veal of nearly so fine a quality as the Dutch farmers. There is every reason to believe there is an opportunity to create a well-paying demand for a superior quality of veal. A few years ago the Pennsylvania station conducted two different experiments to determine, if possible, what the relation was between milk sold or made into butter and that made into veal. The results obtained in the two experiments agreed so closely that they have a fair degree of reliability.

The calves, sixteen in number, were confined in darkened stalls so narrow that after a few days they could not turn around, and care was taken that they had absolutely no solid foods. The object was to keep them as quiet as possible, and to stuff them with all the whole milk they would take twice a day. The calves used in these experiments were very poor for the purpose, and as a consequence the results obtained were not so good as if a higher class calf had been used. However, the results were so surprising to me that they may possibly be of interest to you.

It was found that when veal calves were sold at four weeks old for 5 cents a pound, shrunken light weight, they would pay a gross price of \$1.41 per hundredweight for milk testing 4.2 per cent fat, and 28.1 cents per pound, for butter; when sold for 6 cents per pound, \$1.70 per hundredweight for milk or pound, \$1.70 per hundredweight for milk or 4.2 cents per quart, and 34 cents per pound for butter.

When fed until seven weeks old and

sold for 5 cents they would pay 93 cents per hundredweight for milk and 19 cents for butter, and if sold for 6 cents, \$1.18 for milk and 24 cents for butter. In either case the figures are as good, if not better, than average net market prices for milk and butter, and the practice of vealing surplus calves is worthy the consideration of all thoughtful dairymen.

The last point in dairy management to which I wish to call your attention, and especially those dairymen who ship milk, is that of raising calves from your best cows without any milk, or at most very little, besides the colostrum from its own mother. The advantages to be derived from rearing one's own calves, briefly mentioned, are as follows. (1) In no other way can the standard of production be systematically raised and maintained. (2) In no other way can uniformity in a herd be secured. (3) The danger of bringing disease into a healthy herd is reduced to the minimum.

The difficulty of raising calves without skim milk has been almost insurmountable, owing to the lack of milk substitutes, and to the high price asked for the various calf meals upon the market. During the past year the Pennsylvania experiment station conducted feeding trials with a home-made calf meal for young calves. The results were promising, indeed, and briefly stated were as follows:

(1.) Sevenbeef calves were successfully raised, consuming on an average but 121 pounds of milk. The salable part of this 121 pounds at 5 cents per quart amounted to \$1.25 or less.

(2.) But little difficulty was experienced in raising the calves, although the conditions under which they were kept were not satisfactory.

(3.) The calves raised on milk substitutes made just as rapid and satisfactory growth, determined by the scales, as the check calves fed upon skim milk and grain ration.

(4.) The total cost of raising calves on milk substitutes up to the age of four months, or when they are ready to put upon a hay and grain ration, did not exceed \$10 per calf.

(5.) The calf meal was composed of thirty pounds wheat flour, twenty-five pounds coconut meal, twenty pounds nutrient, ten pounds linseed meal, two pounds dried blood.

BENEFITS OF AERATION.

Aeration has been very widely adopted by dairymen. It has two purposes, says Prof. Conn of Storrs college: 1. To remove the so-called "animal odors." These animal odors are almost wholly due to the manure which gets into the milk, and are not present in the milk when cleanly drawn. Aeration for this purpose should not, therefore, be necessary; but for some milk as ordinarily drawn it does not have the value of reducing the unpleasant odors that come from it. 2. Aeration, as ordinarily performed, cools the milk, and this, as we have just seen, is of very great value.

If the milk were cooled in bottles as thoroughly, the result would be as satisfactory. Aeration does not remove the bacteria, but, on the contrary, exposes the milk to contamination from the air. It should, therefore, always be done in a clean room not connected with the stable. Better results are obtained by clean milking and immediate bottling and cooling than by aeration, provided the milking is really clean, and the aeration seems to be inversely proportional to the care taken in milking.

THE MILKER'S RESPONSIBILITY.

When a man is milking he should bear in mind that he is handling a food product which will undoubtedly be placed on the tables of many people in essentially the same condition that it is obtained from him. This is the very forceful contention of a prominent dairy writer, who adds that he should be just as particular and as careful when milking to supply his customers or for a factory as he is when filling the glass pitcher which his wife or child brings him when milking and asks to have it filled for his own supper table. Milk and its products are, as a rule, used raw with all the impurities that may have gotten into

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them on the way from the cow to the table, and the consumer does not like to be reminded of these possibilities of contamination by the appearance of the milk when he gets it. Milk is sometimes a source of positive danger to a community, as it has been demonstrated that diseases may be spread by this food product from one farm to many households. When such contagious diseases as typhoid fever, diphtheria, scarlet fever, etc., occur in a family selling milk, the fact should at once be made known to the proper authorities, and the milk produced on that farm should be disposed of as directed by them.

GESTATION PERIOD OF COWS.

In a series of experiments at the Cornell, N. Y., station observations were made on the period of gestation of a single herd of cows and its descendants during a period of ten years. The herd contains an average of twenty cows, about two-thirds Holsteins and one-third Jerseys, a few natives and mixed and cross-bred cattle. The results are summarized as follows:

Of 182 births the average period of gestation was almost exactly 280 days. The shortest period was 264 days. Approximately equal numbers of births occurred on each day from the 247th to the 287th inclusive.

The period of gestation was the same for male and female calves.

The period of gestation where twins were born was five days less than the general average, and eight days less than the average of the single births of the same cows.

Many cows show a well-marked individual characteristic as to period of gestation, which may be several days longer or shorter than the average.

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SHEEP---GOATS

To obtain the best results, sheep should be fed some roots along with the grain ration.

Lambs should be weaned when from four to five months old.

Sometimes when the flock does not seem to be doing well a change of rations will bring about an improvement.

Lambs should be docked and castrated when about ten days old. There is very little risk of loss when the operation is performed then.

When the same defects are transmitted by both parents to their offspring the latter is very liable to show some in a greater degree than either the sire or dam.

Sheep are the most profitable stock on thin and high lands. They add substance and fertility to the soil, and pay for their keep by producing wool and mutton.

The apparent decline of the sheep industry in Texas during recent years indicates the extent to which the pasturing of vast flocks on the range has become a thing of the past, but there are now indications that stock farmers are beginning to realize the mistake they made in entirely abandoning sheep for cattle.

PEA FED LAMBS.

A new industry has grown to considerable proportions in some of the semi-arid regions in producing the finest lambs by feeding peas. The vines are cured on the ground, and no rain falls to injure them. Ripened vines, together with the peas, make a balanced ration that apparently just suits the growing appetite of the lambs.

It is profitable because the lambs do the harvesting and no yarding is necessary except to corral them at night. One great advantage is the firm, hard, finely flavored flesh that this feeding produces, the tallow being a fine ivory white. It is said to be the nicest, cleanest and most convenient method of lamb-feeding.

But few sections are adapted to this method. Usually valleys dry enough to cure the feed where it grows are too dry to grow the crop except where under irrigation, but flockmasters thus fortunately situated are apparently reaping a rich harvest. Some growers are raising a little rape as an extra ration by way of variety.

FEEDING CORN TO SHEEP.

A gentleman who has been feeding sheep many years says that care must be observed in feeding corn to sheep, and especially so when such feeding first begins. The Shepherd's Bulletin gives caution on this subject. It says that the lack of care in the use of corn is the cause of a large proportion of the losses in sheep feeding. Unbroken corn is difficult for the animal to digest, and should be fed with moderation, and especially in the beginning, until the animal becomes accustomed to the feed. Otherwise sheep, and especially lambs, will overload their stomachs with hard corn, a large part of which will be unbroken, which will swell and shortly cause death, or the stomach of the lamb, not being accustomed to the feed, will fail to digest it, and death often results. It is always best to mix the corn with oats, bran or other light grain where possible, if it is to be fed in the kernel. If it can be cracked before feeding the danger is greatly lessened and the process of digestion is more complete. Excellent results have been obtained from feeding soaked corn, and we believe this method of treating corn in the

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kernel produces the best results and is the most profitable. It should be soaked until it shows signs of sprouting, but less time greatly improves it. When corn has been soaked until it reaches the sprouting point, the first and most dangerous part of the work of digestion is completed.

FEEDING FOR MUTTON.

The growing interest in sheep raising throughout the southwest has put scores of farmers everywhere to feeding sheep to supply the demand. Here are some facts given by the Montana Experiment Station which are, for the most part, applicable anywhere. The bulletin of the Station gives the results as follows:

1. For the lambs the screenings proved the cheapest and most efficient grain ration, followed by mixed grain, wheat, barley and oats in the order named.

2. The lambs ate 2.05 pounds of clover and .81 pounds of grain a day, while the wethers ate 3.22 pounds of clover and .806 pounds of grain.

3. The lambs averaged .263 pounds gain in live weight a day, or 25 pounds for the full term of the experiment. The wethers averaged .238 pounds per day, or 22 2-3 pounds for the ninety-five days.

4. The lambs ate .803 pounds of clover and 3.11 pounds of grain for each pound of increase.

5. Each pound of increase in live weight put upon the lambs cost 4.49 cents, while each pound of increase on the wethers cost 6.3 cents.

6. Lambs kept without food or water for twelve hours shrank nearly 2 per cent. Wethers similarly treated shrank 3 per cent in weight.

7. In shipping to market, each lamb shrank 7 1/4 pounds, or 7.6 per cent. On the average for three years they shrank 8.3 per cent of their shipping weight. The wethers lost 10.4 pounds each, or 7.1 per cent of their shipping weight, or for two years 7.8 per cent of their shipping weight.

8. For the past winter it cost on the average 75 cents to ship and sell each lamb at Chicago and \$1.16 for each wether. On the average for three years it cost 78 2-3 cents to ship and sell one lamb and \$1.16 1/2 to ship and sell one wether.

9. The net prices received for the lambs, f. o. b. Bozeman, was \$5.57 per 100 pounds live weight and for the wethers \$4.78 per 100 pounds.

10. The profit, or return for money invested and pay for the labor, on each wether was \$2.80. Or, taking the results of the practical feeder and charge 25 per cent for the labor and cost of feeding, the return on the investment was \$2.09 for the lamb and \$2.55 for the wether.

11. In the slaughter test the lambs dressed 54.8 per cent and the wethers dressed 51 per cent of the live weight.

OUTLOOK FOR MOHAIR.

The mohair market for next spring is a question which is of vital interest to all Angora breeders. The present season has been favorable and the domestic mohair clip for the spring of 1904 should be large and of good quality.

During the past year there has been quite a stir in mohair, and all lots which have reached the Eastern market have been readily taken at good prices. This stir has been caused by the decrees of fashion and the new uses to which mohair has been put.

Mr. Wm. R. Payne, the mohair commission man in New York, says: "It is utterly impossible for any one to say with any degree of certainty what mohair will do at so remote a point as next April or May. The whole textile trade at this moment is greatly depressed, and the near future is very uncertain. The wool trade is paralyzed and the mohair market is naturally in sympathy with it. Values are nominal, as there is so little demand. The felt trade has dropped out completely. The plush trade has turned to foreign hair, and the only line of manufacturing which can be looked to is the yarn spinning for dress goods work. Whether this will obtain for the next year it is utterly impossible to predict. It is a matter of fashion, and that is very fickle. I am hoping for the best, and I shall get the very

best prices possible. At the present time all the predictions are guesswork, and not worth much."

The Commercial Bulletin of Boston says: "Fair sized lots of domestic mohair are turning up every now and then, but buyers are displaying an indifference which contrasts strikingly with the avidity they were accustomed to manifest a short time ago. The fact is that business in mohair of all sorts and grades has settled down to very ordinary proportions, and no return of the recent excitement is in sight."

E. Lissberger of New York takes a broad view of the market, and says: "In regard to the prospects for spring trade, would say it is rather early to form an opinion. We have had a very good trade up to a month ago, since which time the demand has fallen off, but this is only natural, as it is practically 'between seasons' just now. I am very hopeful that we shall have a good spring business; and, in fact, general conditions warrant this opinion."

Secretary Fulton, who has just returned from the Eastern seaboard, says that at present the mills are pretty well stocked, and they are not anxious buyers. Every one is waiting to see what Dame Fashion is going to demand, and as soon as that is determined renewed activity will be manifested. The plush business is staple, and there will be many new cars built to accommodate the World's Fair visitors. In fact, this is a time when all old cars are being rejuvenated. There is quite a strong probability that braids will be more in demand next year, and this will mean that a lot of mohair will be required. It is too early to predict what the market will be next spring, but prospects are certainly bright.

CURBING BALKY HORSES.

A horse may refuse to start just from "pure cussedness," or there may be some other cause which a skilled driver may find out. First of all look to the bit, see that it does not hurt the gums, inspect it, advise a well posted writer on the equine. Then look to the shoulders under the collar, and feel if the animal finches from pressure, for there may be injury there, even without the pressure of a wound, or the collar may press on the windpipe. This would make a horse in harness balk. If no manifest reason for not starting can be discovered proceed as follows: While speaking to the animal, pass the hand down the front leg to the coronet, lift the hoof up pretty high, and then, with anything, as a stone, strike each nail in the shoe, with a final tap on the frog of the hoof, then say something to the horse as you suddenly let the foot drop to the ground, and the driver gathers up the reins sufficient for the animal to feel the bit. The horse's attention will have been diverted by what has been done, and he will often start off at once, if it has been a matter of ill-temper. This device has been rarely known to fail, if the horse feels that he is master of the load behind him.

FEEDING IN WINTER.

The matter of feeding in winter in order to make the hens lay when prices are high, is one requiring the best judgment. There is much to do in observing the fowls. Any rule laid down for all to follow cannot be observed in general, as so much depends on locality and circumstances. Fowls differ, and it is only the one who attends to a flock who can judge rightly what should be done.

While it is an accepted fact that food is converted into eggs, yet success depends upon the kind of food. Poultrymen are admonished against corn, but there are days during the cold season when corn proves to be the best food that can be allowed, and the proportions given must be regulated by the condition of the fowls. The great problem in the management of poultry is to learn how to feed. No one can instruct on the subject, except to call attention to certain undeniable truths connected with feeding, for the one who knows how to feed must learn by daily observations; and while successful with one flock there will be much to learn in managing another. The Poultry Keeper



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Talk of a \$300,000,000 packing merger is again being revived, but the rumors are not given much publicity by the daily press, an indication that the threat is not taken seriously. The present "understanding" answers the purpose just as well as a combine would and is not so utterly at variance with public sentiment.

Many suggestions are continually offered the farmers about how to make farm life attractive. With cotton soaring skyward, the cattle and hog market again showing signs of life, eggs around thirty cents a dozen, a "scarcity" of turkeys in the cities and the prospects of a good season for fruit and truck ahead, it looks as though rural soundings could be made tolerable without much trouble.

Onions are now under the ban in one of the large cities of the north, a judge having decided that if the odor of cooking them is offensive to one family living in a flat, that family may secure an injunction restraining another family from cooking onions in the house and thus permitting the fumes to annoy the other tenants. The effect of this ruling upon the truck growing industry of the country has not yet become apparent.

That comparatively small class of men who embark in the cattle business when prices are "way up" in the expectation that they will continue in that direction indefinitely, and who have been sorely disappointed by the late slump, are those that are quitting now with the alleged intention of staying out for good. Those who have remained in the business through thick and thin and are used to market fluctuations do not become worried at every period of depression and quit. It is the "stayers" that will reap the benefit of advancing prices when they come and indications of a substantial revival are already becoming apparent.

PROGRESS IN COTTON BREEDING.

The report of B. T. Galloway, chief of the bureau of plant industry of the Department of Agriculture at Washington for 1903, which has just come from the press, contains the following relative to efforts to improve cotton breeding:

"The greatest problem in cotton breeding is to secure new races of long-staple upland cotton, giving good yield comparable with those of ordinary upland races and being thoroughly adapted to growth in upland cotton regions. The demand for long staple cotton is constantly increasing and the extension of cultivation in areas where such cotton can now be grown cannot long supply the demand. It is thus of the greatest importance that these experiments be pushed as rapidly as possible. The long-staple upland sorts as now cultivated are light yielders and have a rather weak fiber and tufted or fuzzy seeds, so that they cannot be satisfactorily ginned on a roller gin. If ginned on a saw gin the fiber is more or less torn or injured. By hybridizing the fine long-staple Sea Island cotton, which has smooth, black seeds, with the big-bolled, short-stapled upland sorts, which have fuzzy seeds, it is hoped to produce new upland sorts, having big bolls, being easy to pick and having black seeds and long, strong lint. Some 40,000 hybrids have been grown in the course of these experiments and several types have been selected which, in general, give promise of meeting the requirements. These plants are being carefully selected and bred into fixed types, and it is confidently expected that some of these will produce valuable new sorts. It is highly desirable to secure good varieties possessing the qualities mentioned

above and having a fiber ranging from 1 1/4 to 1 3/4 inches in length. This requires the selection of a number of varieties, each having fiber very uniformly of the same length, and several different types are therefore being bred with fibers of different average lengths, but in all cases longer than that of ordinary upland cotton.

"Besides the production of new races by hybridization, much can be accomplished by a straight selection of the best long-staple races now existing, particularly with reference to length and strength of staple. Experiments of this kind have also been inaugurated, the aim being ultimately to secure highly-improved pedigreed seed for distribution.

"Another important line of work which is receiving considerable attention is the introduction and establishment of Egyptian cotton grown in this country. There is annually imported about \$7,500,000 worth of this cotton, and the demand for staple of this character is rapidly increasing, while the area in Egypt suited to its culture is very limited and can only be slightly extended. When first introduced, Egyptian cotton ordinarily gives a very light yield and the fiber tends to lose some of its essential characteristics. It is believed, however, that varieties which will prove profitable for general cultivation can be bred to suit American conditions.

"One variety which has been selected in South Carolina for three years gives considerable promise of value and will soon be ready for distribution if its quality holds up. This is being cultivated in considerable area the present season. A second variety, produced by crossing Sea Island cotton with Mit Afifi Egyptian, type of fiber, last year gave a very excellent yield of fine fiber, but rather variable in length. This is also being cultivated on a comparatively large scale, and will be soon ready for distribution if it holds up in yield and can be improved slightly in uniformity.

"Imported strains are being tested and bred in Georgia, South Carolina, Mississippi, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and Southern California. Samples of fiber grown last year in experimental patches have been submitted to competent authorities for expert opinion as to quality and value, and actual manufacturing tests of the fiber are being made. While there are some failures, the product in many instances is pronounced equal to the best imported fiber. The present indications favor the belief that we will ultimately be able to secure varieties fully adapted to cultivation in this country.

"In the breeding of disease-resistant cotton, very important and marked results have been attained, particularly with sorts resistant to wilt or blackheart. These points, however, are fully discussed under other heads. From a study of the conditions it seems possible that varieties can be originated which will be resistant in some degree to the cotton root rot and to the much-feared boll weevil. Work on these two problems has been started in a small way and should be pushed. In order to avoid injury by the boll weevil, as shown by the work of the Division of Entomology, varieties maturing earlier than those now existing should be produced. While this is very important, and investigations with this object in view are strongly urged by growers, it has thus far been impossible to undertake the work."

A careful perusal of the above report will convey some idea of the progress which is being made in the development of the American cotton industry.

REMEDY FOR RANGE WARFARE.

An echo of the range war in Western Kansas, which resulted in the slaying of the Berry family by Chauncey Dewey and his employees, is heard in the last report of Secretary of the Interior Hitchcock. The troubles are referred to in connection with the unlawful fencing of the public lands, as follows: "One of the most celebrated cases of this character brought to the attention of the department during the past year was that of the West End Ranch, in Cheyenne county, Kansas, owned by the Dewey Cattle company and managed by Chauncey Dewey, the latter being a son of C. P. Dewey, said to be the principal stockholder in the Dewey Cattle company. Within the past three years 62 miles of fence have been

erected by said company in townships 4 and 5 south, ranges 35, 36 and 37 west, which connecting with the 18 miles of fence owned by others, makes a total length of 80 miles. This fence inclosed an area, all told, of 51,040 acres, of which 3,240 acres are state lands, 1,200 are embraced in 8 homestead entries, and 7,440 acres are vacant public lands subject to entry under public land laws.

"The inclosure of homesteads by the unlawful fences of that company was the primary cause of the trouble which resulted in the killing, on or about June 3 last, by Chauncey Dewey and his employees, of three members of the Berry family at the home of Alpheus Berry, near the Dewey ranch.

"It appears to have been the policy of Dewey and his agents and employees to gain complete and exclusive control of all the lands inclosed by their fences, and to adopt whatever measures were found necessary to accomplish their purpose, sparing neither life nor property. Their attitude toward settlers and homesteaders without as well as within their inclosure is shown by reports of agents of this department and by individual complaints to have been extremely hostile and oppressive. Not only have the crops of these bona fide homesteaders and settlers been destroyed by this company's cattle, but the people themselves harassed and intimidated by threats of violence made by its agents and employees, their fences cut and dwellings deliberately moved off their homesteads, and a number of them have been compelled by this outlawry to abandon their entries and seek residences elsewhere."

Unprejudiced persons, while deprecating that a law exists which is so inimical to the livestock interest of the West as that which deprives cattlemen of the use of the public domain, will admit that the arraignment is no more severe than facts warrant. The remedy for such outbreaks lies in the passage by congress of a measure which will enable cattlemen and flockmasters to lease grazing lands from the government for a stipulated term of years.

CROP GOSSIP FROM WASHINGTON.

Dr. W. D. Hunter, who has been in charge of the government's boll weevil experiments in Texas, has gone to Washington for a stay of a month or so. He is assisting the officials of the department in projecting the work to be undertaken when the appropriation of \$250,000 to combat the boll weevil, boll worm and root rot is made available.

Press dispatches from the capital announce that he will prepare a bulletin advising the farmers of Texas how to cultivate cotton in order to make a crop, despite the boll weevil. He feels that it has now been definitely demonstrated that by proper cultivation cotton can be profitably grown regardless of the boll weevil.

This year he will demonstrate the good to be derived from the use of fertilizers. Owing to the fact that fertilizers have never been in general use on the cotton farms of Texas, he fears it may require considerable time to arouse the planters to the importance of the use of fertilizers. The fertilizers he will use will be those which contain the elements necessary to hasten the maturing of the plant. This character of fertilizer, he says, will be necessary, even on the rich black prairie. While the land is fertile enough to produce an abundance of fruit, proper fertilization will tend to mature the plant so that a crop can be made before the weevils have become numerous enough to do much damage.

It has come to the attention of the division of entomology that as a result of the enormous demand for the seed of improved varieties of cotton, the supply in some quarters has been exhausted. Parties in the eastern part of the cotton belt are now buying up large quantities of what is known as "run of the gin" seed in their localities, which will be sacked and sold in Texas as the seed of some of the varieties that have been mentioned in the recommendations of the division of entomology. This matter has gained such headway that it seems absolutely necessary that warning should be published. As a matter of fact, but little more attention is paid to varieties of cotton in the eastern part of the belt than is paid in some portions of Texas. As a result, the "the run of the gin" seed from that portion of the United States, though likely to be somewhat superior to "run of the gin" seed from Texas on account of its Northern origin, is nevertheless, sure to result in disap-

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THE OLD RAY RANCH—This ranch, consisting of 2,348 acres of land, is situated on the Nueces river, in the eastern part of McMullen county, Texas, the eastern line of the county making the east line of the ranch, its entire length. The ranch is about fourteen miles long, north and south, by about six miles wide, east and west, and the Nueces river runs through it in a northeasterly direction, about one-third of the average distance from the north to the south line. All its outside fencing is very good, and in good repair, the eastern or "County Line" fence being new and particularly well built. There is a fairly good ranch house, sheds, etc., and all the inside fencing is in good repair. The Nueces river, a never failing source, is the principal water supply, but there are two large tanks in the southern part of the ranch, which, though partially broken by the heavy rains during last winter, still hold a considerable amount of water and could be repaired at very little expense. The ranch is fenced into convenient pastures and "traps" for gathering cattle, is all fine grass land, and at least one-third of it is as fertile as the celebrated black waxy lands of North and Central Texas and is of the same color and adhesive nature. The bottom lands, along the Nueces, are as fertile as any in the world, and what is known as "Sincajo Plains" is a large tract of excellent, level, black land, besides various wide, flat fertile valleys along Live Oak creek and the various ravines draining the ranch. There is, at present, a luxuriant growth of mesquite, and the various gamma grasses in the valleys and on the bottoms and mesa lands, and the hills are covered with guajillo (waxes) and other brush and shrubs, so valuable for winter browsing. This ranch is that part of what is known, or was formerly known, as the West & Fant ranch, which lies in McMullen county, and take its name from a man named Ray, who first settled on it. It lies adjoining the ranch of Dr. C. F. Simmons, of River medicine fame, his ranch lying directly east of it. It is one among the best small ranches in Southwest Texas and is a bargain, and can be had on easy terms. Write for information to Box 375, Fort Worth, Tex.

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pointment on the part of the purchaser. The matter seems to be of such importance that the bureau of entomology wishes especially to caution Texas cotton planters who procure the seed of early maturing varieties to make whatever arrangements are necessary to be certain that what they are obtaining is exactly as represented.

Even last year, with a demand for the seed of early varieties much less than this year, much worthless seed was shipped to Texas. In one particular instance in September the agent in charge of the cotton belt weevil investigation was conducted to a field that had been planted with seed sold as that of an early maturing variety, where the plants had grown to the height of about seven feet absolutely without any fruit whatever.

A caterpillar plague is destroying the crops in New South Wales, Australia. It is reported to be even more destructive than the boll weevil.

CATTLE

RANCH CATTLE AND GOATS FOR SALE—Twelve section ranch in Edwards county, nine miles from county seat, all fenced, one good ranch house, pens, small horse pasture, two good wells, plenty of water and grass, 500 head of stock cattle, 10 head 1-year-old steers, well bred and in good condition; 200 head registered Angora goats, 1800 head of Angora goats. **I. D. PEPPER**, Rock Springs, Tex.

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"This was the consolation enjoyed by Columbus for fourteen years. The leaders of his day ridiculed his ideas. The masses thought him crazy. The world was positive, "It Can't Be Done!" "It Can't Be Done!"

What was the attitude of the Colonists when the first suggestions of Independence from Great Britain were made? "It Can't Be Done!" Most of the statesmen at that time took up the cry, "It Can't Be Done!"

See Prof. Samuel F. Morse, stand alone by his electric telegraph for eight long years amid the sneers and ejaculations: "It Can't Be Done." Note the reluctance with which congress made an appropriation to build an experimental line between Baltimore and Washington. The general feeling expressed, "It Can't Be Done." His suggestion of an Atlantic Cable even after following his success with the telegraph, was met with the same cry, "It Can't Be Done." "It Can't Be Done," and when Cyrus W. Field became possessed with the idea that it could be done and set about doing it, eleven years later Congress gave him encouragement by a majority of one in the senate while the others sent up the wall, "It Can't Be Done," "It Can't Be Done."

George Stephenson met with the same howl, "It Can't Be Done," and during the fifteen years of experimenting with his locomotive the cry was continued "It Can't Be Done." When Prof. A. G. Bell informed the world that he could talk, by telephone, from Chicago to New York he met the same rebuke, "It Can't Be Done." "It Can't Be Done." "It Can't Be Done." Marconi told the world he would talk across the Atlantic without wires by his system of wireless telegraphy but the world said "It Can't Be Done," "It Can't Be Done."

For several years after congress made appropriations to experiment with Rural Free Delivery the postal authorities would not use it. They said "It Can't Be Done."

When it was proposed to build a railway across the continent people said "It Can't Be Done." When engineers said it was possible to harness Niagara and secure from her almost unlimited power, the shout went up, "It Can't Be Done." The advocates of making the trolley a practical means of conveyance encountered the same "It Can't Be Done," and the first automobile enthusiasts met at the start, "It Can't Be Done." Capital and co-operation control the industrial world today, construct railways across the continent, elevate them over cities or run them through tunnels, under them, encircle the globe, form a network of electric railways the possible extension of which no man dare predict, perfect telephone system that enables a

man to talk with the world, from his home or office. I doubt not that such leaders in thought and progress as Washington, Adams and Jefferson would have said in their day, "It Can't Be Done."

Every great achievement recorded in history has had to fight its way through a throng of pessimists, whose universal cry "It Can't Be Done," would block the wheels of progress and turn the world over to darkness and despair, and were not the powers of the enthusiastic optimist far stronger than the pessimistic class the world would still grope in the ignorance of the Dark Ages.

The American Society of Equity, less than one year ago, through their plan of co-operation, told the farmers that they could and should "secure profitable prices for all farm produce," and again up went the cry, "It Can't Be Done." Let us glance for a moment at the facts. In December 1901, J. A. Everitt of Indianapolis, first suggested, and in a series of articles in Up-to-Date Farming published to the world the plan of co-operation upon which the American Society of Equity is based. Unlike many of the other great economic movements his proposition was not kept waiting for recognition. He had struck the key note and urgent requests poured in from some of the leading men of the agricultural world, to put the plan into operation. A meeting was called and on the 24th day of December, 1902, the American Society of Equity was born. Less than a year from suggestion to operation! Then began the work of education and organization. Members have gathered round the banner "Equity for All" by the thousand. Local Unions have sprang up, as by magic, all over the country and can now, at the end of one year, be numbered by the thousand. The crops of organizers reaches far into the hundreds and the Society has issued a call for five thousand Deputy Presidents to assist in caring for the interests of the Society. With all of this accomplished within the brief period of one year, with an army of active workers already in the field supported by a membership of over fifty thousand, can there be anyone so pessimistic as to dare send out the wall, "It Can't Be Done?"

Look over the records of achievement. Compare the difficulties overcome with the ease of accomplishment of the objects of the American Society of Equity, and then consult your own good judgment and see if you can say, "It Can't Be Done," or; "It May Be Done." No, there is no maybe about it. **IT CAN BE DONE, IT WILL BE DONE.** It will be done quicker with your help. Shall the society and your brother farmers have it?—**M. W. Tubbs** in Up-to-Date.

FRUIT TREES SUPPLANT FOREST.

The extent to which fruit growing and other farms of diversification are being introduced down around Nacogdoches is interestingly described in press correspondence from that place. Prof. F. W. Mally of Garrison, formerly a member of the A. and M. College faculty, seems to be the moving spirit in bringing about changed conditions near Oil City. Several months ago he completed the organization and incorporation of an orchard company, which has begun the improvement of a large tract of land. A little over half a month, Prof. Mally began to clear 100 acres of virgin pine and oak land and prepare for planting peach trees. He now has thirty acres ready, and is pushing the work further.

By January 1, the 100 acres of new ground will be planted in fruit trees, where a few weeks before wild trees and brush and bramble grew thick, thus accomplishing in a month what might ordinarily have required a year's time. He is working about 100 hands, white men, Mexicans and negroes, organized in squads and crews with leaders, who race with each other in turning off tasks. He uses system in every detail and no hitch or halt has occurred. This work will be unmistakably a model and pattern for other companies to imitate with advantage. In the selection of the soil and the purchase of the land great judgment was used. It is peculiarly adapted to the purposes desired, being very fertile and suitably located watered and drained.

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KNOWS A GOOD THING.

Thorntown, Ind., April 16, 1902.
I purchased Watkins' Cinnamon Extract and Watkins' Ground Ginger of your agent last season, and I can cheerfully say they are the best I have ever used. There was an agent for another company here yesterday, but I told him I would wait for your agent. I bought another bill to-day.

MRS. FANNIE HILLCOSS

SWINE

Musty grain and sour swill, fed to the brood sow, are forerunners of scours in the litter.

Instead of feeding all the hogs indiscriminately, it is best to separate them and feed according to size.

It is well to remember that the hogs' eyes are "bigger than his stomach"—in other words that his appetite exceeds his digestive faculties.

Bacon sells around twenty cents per pound, yet hogs are now bringing less than five cents. When such conditions as these exist, the farmers' motto should be "every man his own butcher."

There is some difference of opinion as to the proper time to mate for early spring litters, but unless comfortable quarters are provided for the pigs almost any time will be equally unsatisfactory.

METHOD IN MANAGING HOGS.

I start out with good size combined with growthiness in my hogs selected from prolific families. I have a variety of feed such as oats, bran, shorts and a little corn in winter time; in spring and summer abundant pastures of blue grass and clover with running water from a spring, using more corn in summer than in winter, as I think many have a mistaken idea that winter is the time to feed corn to brood sows.

In the selection I get good length with strong bone and use only one breed, writes Ed Claybough in American Swineherd. I am not favorable to cross breeding. It causes confusion and does not result in permanent benefit, and would recommend all breeders and farmers to select the breed that best suits their fancy and then keep it pure; do not attempt at crossing. Aim to have your pigs farrowed as near together as possible. In buying your boar do not try to buy the lowest priced ones as they are usually not the cheapest. Only have one person look after the attention and feed of the herd, as one attendant sees the needs more readily and any changes necessary in feed and welfare of your herd.

The improved up-to-date hog has supplanted the old Grazier that required 2 to 4 years to mature. The quick maturing hog cuts off a large amount of risk from disease, because it is ready for the market in from 6 to 8 months.

I think that a litter averaging 6 to 8 good ones is better than one averaging 10 or more.

Personally I am a breeder of Poland Chinas, believing in them as the best for my purposes. Novelties have come and gone in the past and will continue to do so, but the old Poland-China withstands the changes and maintains its position in the lead. Given plenty of exercise and the smallest ration of mixed feeds the Poland-China takes the lead of all other breeds as shown by the Government Experimental Stations as well as actual every day experience. A feature of Poland-Chinas

POLAND CHINA.

RICHARDSON HERD POLAND CHINAS
Herd headed by the great Guy Wilkes 2nd, Jr., 20867, assisted by Texas Chief. Pigs for sale of the most fashionable strains. Satisfaction guaranteed. Correspondence solicited. J. W. FLOYD, Richardson, Dallas County, Texas.

SPRINGDALE HERD
of Poland-Chinas: nice lot of sows, granddaughters of the big boar, Catcher, the great St. Louis Fair winner; bred to a grandson of Perfect, I Know and Short Stop. C. W. THOMAS, Pottsboro, Tex.

FOR SALE—
Choice Poland-China pigs by best boars in the United States. Write for prices. A. B. JOHNSON & CO., Cisco, Tex.

GRAYSON COUNTY
Poland Chinas for sale. Fred Glits; 1 January and 4 February males; also a choice lot of May pigs ready to ship. A. MILLER, Box 235, Sherman, Tex.

FOR SALE—
Blooded Poland China pigs, eligible to registry. Address J. T. JACKSON, Richardson, Tex.

HOGS! HOGS! HOGS!
The new type of Hogs—Guinea-Essex. I now have an established breed, all solid black; short, thin ears; short head; long, low, broad backs; matures early; can be fattened any age—in fact, are always fat; very prolific. Pigs and young hogs for sale. WELTON WINN, Santa Anna, Tex.

is the fact that they are more easily kept fat than other breeds and, therefore, requires more exercise and less feed than any other breed known.

With an experience of years with thoroughbreds I have had an average of 7½ pigs to the litter and 90 per cent of these are raised.

In conclusion I will say that if you do not like hogs and enjoy seeing them eat and grow, you had better not try to make a success with them but give your attention to other lines of stock raising.

FEEDING PIGS ON RAPE.

The following is condensed from conclusions reached by the Wisconsin Station in feeding pigs with rape:

1. That with pigs from 4 to 10 months old, representing the various breeds of swine, an acre of rape, when properly grown, has a feeding value, when combined with a ration of corn and shorts, equivalent to 2,436 pounds of a mixture of these grain feeds and a money value of \$19.49 per acre.

2. That rape is a better green feed for growing pigs than good clover pasture, the pigs fed upon the rape having gained on the average 100 pounds of gain on 33.5 pounds less grain than was required by the pigs fed upon clover pasture.

3. That pigs are more thrifty, have better appetites and make correspondingly greater gains when supplied with rape pasture in conjunction with their grain feed than when fed on grain alone.

4. That a plant of Dwarf Essex forage rape, when planted in drills thirty inches apart, early in May, will yield three good crops of pasture forage in a favorable season.

5. That rape is the most satisfactory and cheapest green feed for swine that we have fed.

6. That every feeder of hogs should plant each spring a small field of rape adjoining his yard, and provide himself with a few rods of movable fence, to properly feed the rape to brood sows and young pigs.

7. That rape should be sown for this purpose in drills thirty inches apart to facilitate the stirring of the ground and cultivation after each successive growth has been eaten off.

8. The hogs should not be turned upon a rape pasture until the plants are at least twelve to fourteen inches high, and that they should be prevented from rooting while in the rape field.

9. That rape is not a satisfactory feed when fed alone, when it is desired to have any live weight gain made in hogs, though it has been found that they will just about maintain themselves without loss of weight on this feed alone.

MORE HOG PASTURE ADVISED.

The most vigorous advocates of diversification in Texas advise the raising of hogs on a large scale, but, at the same time, sound a note of warning against the waste which results from the feeding of too much corn. A good pasture, available at all seasons except when the fattening process is going forward, will solve the problem of cheap maintenance. A leading Kansas breeder, Mr. Frank Hobart of Columbus, very truly says:

"I need not go into the detail over the grains that can be raised on a farm to be used as a balancer for corn, but I cannot let this opportunity pass without saying a word for grass. Grass is one of the best balancers of the corn ration. The farmer figures, maybe, on all the condiments and high-priced feeds advertised, and forgets that the green carpets on which he looks and treads so often, are the best condiments known, and, as careful experiments have shown, will save him in feed 20 to 30 per cent. The two men who have made the most money out of hogs in Cherokee county have grass in abundance. Why will we keep our cows knee deep in grass and our hogs knee deep in mud? In a drive of nearly fifty miles last spring over a good portion of two of our southeastern counties, I was astonished to see but one farmer that had adequate pasture for his herd of hogs. Corn has been cultivated 200 years and its possibilities are just being discovered. Without it our Puritan forefathers would have perished, and we might have had no New England. Now corn culture is

much discussed and corn breeding associations are in vogue. When will the grass growers form an association and lay before the world the possibilities of grass? Such a variety of grasses as grow! Such a world of feed going to waste! The day of grass needs to be hastened."

A small patch sown to rape, cow-peas or soy beans, and grazed with pigs, will be worth far more than planted to corn or any other grain crop. A patch fenced off the meadow will be worth more for the grazing of pigs than for hay.

FEEDING SOWS THAT ARE BRED.

Prof. W. A. Henry, the well-known authority on the feeding question, gives the following plan for feeding sows that are in farrow for good results, especially where the party has for his principal feeds corn and oats that he has produced upon the farm:

"With corn and oats as feeding stuffs, grind part of both corn and oats and feed in the form of slop. Arrange also to feed some whole shelled corn and some whole oats. The oats furnish considerable protein essential to building up bone and muscle. Arrange to give at least one half oats and the remainder of corn. The hulls of the oats give the material bulk and thus help distend the animal's digestive tract—a matter of considerable importance in the successful management of brood sows. Such animals cannot be heavily fed. Their digestive tract must therefore remain either partially collapsed for lack of volume to the food if richly concentrated foods are used, or the distension must be effected by feeding much water in sloppy foods, or wisely by the use of foods possessing considerable bulk or volume. The oat hulls will furnish part of the desired volume for brood sows with advantage, though they should not be used too freely for that purpose since they are rather hard and woody.

"Endeavor to feed some whole shelled corn and some unground oats. Let these grains be scattered over a clean feeding place, preferably a floor made of matched lumber swept clean each day. Scatter the grain so thinly that the sows must walk about and stand for a considerable time to consume the grains. The brood sow is apt to become lazy and to spend too much of her time lying down. Experience is needed to make her and her progeny strong and healthy. By making her stand and walk about in the gathering of food, good results are accomplished. Better arrange to also feed sows some clover leaves and tops from the hay mow moistened and mingled with the slop made from the ground grain. Such material forms better filling than even the oat hulls, though some of the hulls may be used with advantage. Feed such an allowance of these materials as will keep the sow in good order and gaining slightly. After farrowing it is impossible to maintain the weight of sows that are first-class milkers. At such times their feed can be very heavy and consist entirely of the grains named with good results following."

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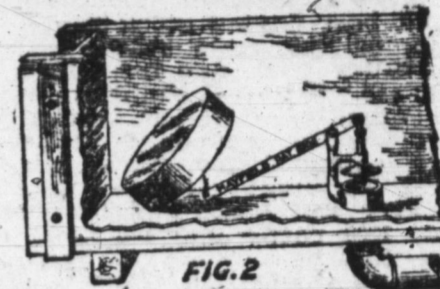
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WOMANS DEPARTMENT

THE WOMAN FAKIR.

"A H, well, I suppose we're all of us fakirs, more or less," began the woman who had to put on magnificent appearances on a tiny income.

"If you really want to see women fakirs, though, you want to go to a large city," remarked the woman who knew.

"Or to heathen countries," put in a third—some of the women missionaries they send out, for instance."

"Now, I'm not going to have anything said about missionaries."

"My dear, I'm not saying anything against the noble women who go out there and roam in the sun and freeze in the wind and rain with the laudable purpose of really helping the starving and the unfortunate, but there are some women—and I speak with knowledge—who undertake this missionary work just to make themselves persons of importance. I have in mind one woman in particular, born in a small village, without a ghost of a chance to amount to anything. Her drab hair tightly drawn back from her sharp pointed features suggested a weasel or a bird of prey. Well, she was getting into gear and sad spinsterhood when she happened to meet some one who sent out missionaries to faraway India. By the exercise of a little hypocrisy and mock piety she managed to be sent out as nurse. She stayed over there four years and at the end of that time returned with considerable avoirdupois, a florid, self-satisfied countenance, the title of doctor—which she had procured heaven knows how—and two trunks simply packed with spoils from the heathen—presents, as she explained, from admiring and grateful patients. But there is room for doubt on that score. Anyway they were a choice lot of valuable bits taken here and there from different parts of the country. So now with the prestige of her foreign travel she has set up an office



FOR SWEET CHARITY?

in a fashionable locality where, with a wise air, she does out advice to foolish women and takes in fat fees."

"My dear, speaking of bogus church work, you should be at the head of a settlement in the slums to see sweet charity worked for the social game."

"A nice opportunity for parvenus?"

"A nice opportunity for parvenus—a nice opportunity for all sorts of people who never had a decent social circle of their own. They come to the settlement and proffer their services free of charge for the suffering poor, and then, my dear, they become acquainted with the patronesses, and they graft, graft, graft, graft! They spend every cent to the best advantage too. If they give a dinner to the infant kindergarten they invite dear Mrs. Fitzmillion, the foundress and patron saint of the institution, to preside, and how can she refuse when so much is being done for her little ones? The next day an account of the whole affair appears in the newspapers, and Mrs. Socialclimber's name is linked with that of her patron-

ess."

"That is the worst form of fakirism. My dear woman, just imagine yourself a busy man, scribbling away in your private office, when suddenly two ladies are announced, and when they are grudgingly admitted to your august presence you find they are two stunning young girls—real ladies, mind you—beautifully and irreproachably gowned in the finest cloth and velvet. The elder of the two begins, with a pretty, diffident blush, to solicit your subscription for the Home For Siberian Orphans With One Foot, let us say. They both explain that they hate to go around in this way (with another pretty blush), that they are not used to it, but the home is in such need. The orphans have no shoes or stockings, a holiday is drawing nigh, and this seems to be the only way to collect money from the hard-hearted merchants and financiers who can well afford it. What would you do if your little ones had only one foot each and no shoes and stockings? You thrust your hand hastily into your pocket; you give them \$5, \$10—anything. How can you refuse such well-bred, plainly embarrassed girls who are thus doing violence to their natural timidity for sweet charity? And do the infants get their shoes? Well, perhaps they do, and perhaps they don't, but anyway not until the percentage, and a large one, has been deducted for the benefit of the sweet, refined, shrinking young creatures."

MAUD ROBINSON.

FASHIONS FOR GIRLS.

Who has not read the story of "Little Red Riding Hood," with its tragedy? And we all know that the distinguishing feature of the story is the pretty red cloak, with its hood, which the little girl wears as she travels through the lonely woods on her errand of mercy. Well, the fashion in red cloaks of this exact description has been revived, and the street is plentifully besprinkled with them, in windows and outside. The color is red, undeniable and unmistakable red, in the brightest cardinal shade. The shape is a plain circular, with a capuchin hood, which may be left to hang down the back or be brought up over the dimpled face, and it should reach quite to the bottom of the dress.

One beautiful little girl was made the happy possessor of one of these and in addition had a large hat of plaited taffeta of the same shade and color. Her hair fell in long dark ringlets over the hood to the cape from under the big picturesque mob cap. The whole was quaint and very pretty, and the girl, the cloak and the hat were much admired. The cloaks are not so very expensive, as they are unlined and are worn in very cold weather with a knitted vest.

These jersey vests are among the most valuable of the small belongings of a woman's outfit, as they make it possible to be warm and comfortable while wearing an unlined coat.

For the young schoolgirl there are many pretty fancies in the way of neat and girlish frocks, but the faint old apron is gone from our gaze. Girls no longer have these pretty little adjuncts for their adornment and incidentally to preserve their dresses. A few mothers put clean white aprons on their small girls, but after a child is eight or nine she disdains aprons.

The dresses for schoolgirls are made of woolen goods of various kinds—serge, cheviot, flannel, albatross, Scotch plaids and some few of the zibelines. These are in all the colors of the season, and there seems really to be no difference in the material worn by mothers and children. The belts and collars are generally of velvet or silk to match. Yokes may be of light silk covered with heavy lace, or for ordinary wear the tucked blouse waist is the favorite, with no trimming beyond the decorative effect of the tucking. A really pretty school frock for a girl in her early teens was of tan-colored albatross, both skirt and blouse laid in box folds and stitched down. The plaits run out at the knees, which allows the proper fullness to the skirt. The bishop sleeves have two box plaits down to the elbows. A neat black or brown leather belt and a white linen collar, with a dark red or a brown or even a black bow tie, make the costume girlish and "taking."

A more dressy frock is made of light blue liberty silk, the skirt being cut

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absolutely strange, so that the shirring at the hips and bottom brings it to a perfect adjustment to the slim figure. The waist has shirring around the top, so that it takes the form of a yoke. The upper parts of the sleeves are also shirred, as is the forearm. A couple of rows of black lace insertion are placed around the foot of the skirt, and there is a sash of black satin ribbon. For the longer Oxford ties are pret-



fer than high boots, but high laced or buttoned boots are necessary for the street.

Short sack coats, long rain proofed coats and thick frieze coats for very cold days are all seen. Box coats of melton, with pretty facing, are very natty for the young. Small fur pieces for the neck are shown for young girls, but physicians advise that they should not be worn, as the wearing of fur

around the neck tends to weaken the throat.

A few words may be added regarding the undergarments for growing girls. Corsets are out of the question, but there are waists which support the skirts without unduly compressing the young form, and the union woolen undergarments are worn nearly everywhere. Then come the drawers and skirts. The former may be short and fancy, as the warm flannels are underneath. There is a short knitted wool skirt fitting closely to the body and a colored silkoline or satine skirt for every day. For "nice" nothing is so suitable as white with plentiful ruffles of lace or fine embroidery.

This season of the year is almost as dangerous for the young child as the heat of the dog days. Measles, catarrh and other kindred complaints are frequent, and they cause much distress.

It is a great mistake to suppose that a child must go through certain diseases in childhood. There is no such need, and the fewer illnesses a child has the better chance it has of growing up a healthy man or woman.

I have no patience with the toughening process which tries to make Spartans out of young children by exposing them to cold. Cold is an enemy to the young and the very old, and, far from making a child healthy, leaving its arms and legs exposed undermines its constitution. And, as for making a child wear low socks on cold days, that is positive cruelty, while it is unhygienic in the last degree.

Children require more rest than grownups—ten hours out of the twenty-four is not a bit too much. The old proverb, "Early to bed and early to rise," should be enforced in more households than it is.

The question of food is a very important one. Four meals a day are not too many for a child even up to the age of fourteen. In winter the diet should be one conducive to warmth, such as oil and fats, milk, eggs, butter, etc., and the carbohydrates—starch, sugar, cereals, etc. An almost ideal food is milk, because it combines all the above qualities.

HELEN M. WATROUS.

THE HORSE.

An overfed horse is one whose digestive apparatus will soon get out of order.

A handful of hay twisted hard and tight is a good horse brush if wielded energetically.

Horses are in the best of condition only when the skin is clean and the pores are kept open.

When the colts go into winter low in flesh it is a hard matter to improve them any during the season.

The health and vitality of the colt are much influenced by the condition of the mare around foaling time.

A team of "quick steppers" attached to a piece of farm machinery are infinitely preferable to a duo that move along like snails.

Lots of elbow grease may be saved by scraping the mud off the horses legs and flanks before it has had time to dry.

In testing a horse with a view to purchase, he should be driven or worked several times under different conditions.

Farm horses should have the necessary weight, intelligence and action to fill with efficiency the various occupations they are required to perform.

Good care is more effective than dosing with drugs as a means of keeping the horse in good health and condition.

Wounds in the horse's foot caused by rusty nails or other sharp metallic objects are most successfully treated by the application of acids to the injured part.

Classes in horse judging are being organized at some of the agricultural colleges. The initiative was taken at Ames, Iowa, under Prof. W. J. Kennedy's direction.

BLACKING FOR HARNESS.

The famous English polish is made as follows: Three ounces of turpentine and two ounces of white wax are dissolved together over a slow fire. Then add one ounce of ivory black and indigo and stir until cold. Apply thin. Wash afterwards, and you will have a beautiful polish. This blacking keeps the leather soft, and is excellent for harness and buggy tops.

HORSES' HIDES ARE VALUABLE.

The fact that horses' hides are of considerable value, and that there is a ready market for all that can be produced does not appeal to most farmers. Very few of them save the skins of equines that are accidentally killed or die from other causes. Yet the leather houses are bidding from \$3 to \$3.25 each for hides that are free from holes or other defects. When Dobbin shuffles off it might be a good plan to save this portion of him and sell it.

GOOD SIRES ESSENTIAL.

A successful horse raiser truly says: One reason for our scant supply of good horses is the want of judicious mating. Instead of encouraging and patronizing the best sires, which are usually at a nominal fee, say \$12 to \$15, they prefer to use any kind of a brute, at perhaps half; the old story, shilling wise and pound foolish. Such men are not only an injury to themselves, but to the district in which they live, as good and plentiful buyers always frequent the district in which they get good stuff. Another drawback at present is that a horse owner has to be an insurance company also. If a patron loses a mare in foal, the poor horse man is expected to lose his fee, and if the foal dies he is supposed to lose half; but if an owner loses his stallion, his return benefit is simply sympathetic words. Under such conditions how can importers be expected to import good and valuable horses? At the fountain head, Scotland and England, things are quite different.

Patrons use every means to encourage good sires. They are selected by societies under guarantee of so much for their service in shape of a premium and half fees at end-of-season, the other half when mare proves in foal. There horsemen can afford to place before the public first class animals, which are a source of profit to all concerned.

ECONOMICAL HORSE FEEDING.

On a great many farms in the corn belt horses are fed more corn than they ought to be fed. For many years to come corn will be the main crop and hence will also serve as food for horses to a greater or less extent. The problem, then, which the farmer in this section of the country has to confront: How can I feed my horses most economically and yet have corn enter into the ration to a considerable extent?

Well-cured clover hay makes a most excellent adjunct to feed in connection with corn. Alfalfa is now being raised to some extent in Iowa, and this also makes a most excellent feeding stuff. Horses may be nicely wintered on alfalfa hay and some straw. There has been some prejudice against feeding alfalfa hay to horses on the ground that it produces injurious effects, often unduly increasing the flow of urine.

In the arid West, however, horses are fed a great deal of alfalfa, and no injurious results have been observed. At the Utah station the horses have been fed alfalfa as roughage for over twelve years in succession without any injurious results. There, as at other places, alfalfa has proved a much more valuable feed, pound for pound, than the best timothy hay. Horses relish alfalfa more than they do timothy, and also waste less of the former than of the latter.

Horses weighing 1400 pounds were able to maintain their weight when not at work on about twenty pounds of alfalfa hay per day, together with a few pounds of straw. Clover hay is not quite equal to alfalfa as a feeding stuff for horses. It is a most valuable fodder. There is some prejudice against clover hay for horses, timothy hay being generally considered preferable. The reason for that may be said to be due to two main causes. First, clover is more apt to be dusty than is timothy; and, second, if the amount of hay given a horse is not limited to the proper amount he is very apt to consume more than is desirable, which objection is not the case with timothy to nearly so large an extent.

In regard to actual feeding value of timothy it has been found that as a horse feed good corn stover is equally as good, a fact that is well worth bearing in mind, as there is always a great difference in the market value of these two feeds. A farmer can well afford to sell his timothy hay and save more of his corn fodder than he generally does, thereby increasing his profits materially.

We must study how to feed our horses economically. Especially is this necessary during the winter months when so many horses are practically idle during that time.

As has been said, in the corn belt, corn will always be used to some extent as horse feed. It should not, however, be used exclusively as the grain ration, but should be mixed with some good nutritious grain ration. Oats, barley, or even wheat, may be fed to advantage. By-products, like bran, gluten feed, cotton seed meal, oil meal, middlings, etc., have all been fed in connection with other grains and have been found to be valuable.

The New Hampshire station has investigated the horse feeding question extensively, and found corn and wheat bran mixed half and half by weight to be an excellent substitute for corn and oats; in fact, they obtained as good results from this mixture as from the latter.

This is another important factor that has a practical bearing upon economical-horse feeding, as bran can generally be purchased for enough less per pound to pay the farmer for hauling his oats to market and bring wheat bran back on his return. Suppose oats



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CARBOLIC SOAP CO.,
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are selling at thirty cents per bushel. This is equal to \$18.75 per ton. When oats are selling at this price bran can be purchased for \$13.75 per ton, making a difference of \$5 per ton in the two feeds. For this difference a farmer, if he does not live too far from market, can afford to make the exchange. Sometimes the difference in price is larger than indicated, depending upon the market and the quality of the oats.

There is another advantage in the exchange of oats for bran, which is worth considering. A ton of oats contain about 220 pounds of protein, while a ton of bran contains about 300 pounds of protein, making a gain of eighty pounds of protein in favor of the exchange. The eighty pounds of protein, which is equivalent to about 12.8 pounds of nitrogen, if it had to be purchased in the form of commercial fertilizers, would cost about 15 cents per pound, or \$1.89. While we are buying but little commercial fertilizers in this state, the fact should not be lost sight of that pound for pound, the bran is a more nitrogenous food than its oats.

The point we wish to make clear is, that for ordinary farm work equal parts of corn and wheat bran is as good a feed for horses as equal parts of corn and oats, and therefore it will often pay to sell the oats and purchase bran to take its place as horse feed.

On the Pacific coast barley is fed extensively to horses; more so than any other grain. This is also done in some foreign countries. For hard work barley has been found to be slightly inferior to oats, yet this grain may often be exchanged for oats when barley is badly off color and can be had at a low price per pound.

In feeding value for ordinary farm work barley is slightly inferior, pound for pounds, to oats, and when figuring on the most economical ration for horses this fact should be borne in mind.—Farmers' Tribune.

HONEY AND HONEY-DEW.

Nothing else has injured the honey business so much as the marketing of "honey-dew" honey, under the name of "buckwheat," by ignorant or unscrupulous parties.

This "honey-dew" is a sweetness exuded by tiny insects on the leaves of trees, principally elms, and the bees work on it mornings un-aand the bees work on it mornings until the sun dries off the leaves. Some years there is none and some years it has seemed as if there was not much else.

It is a particularly aggravating case when the bees will gather just enough of the wretched stuff to put a few cells in each section of nice, white honey, and thereby spoil the sale of it, as happened to some two tons of our honey one season. Bees die in trying to winter on honey-dew, and when parties buy a box of so-called "buckwheat honey" and are quite likely sickened by it, they want no more, although the real buckwheat is very palatable and all right.

When we are so unfortunate as to have the honey-dew in the hives in the fall and that gathered from pines is particularly rank and destructive, we have to extract all of it and feed sugar in its place. This extracted stuff may be used to feed in the spring to stimulate brood-rearing, after the weather will permit the bees to fly freely, but not late enough to risk getting any of it in the sections.

Doubtless much of this kind of honey finds its way to breweries. We have heard that it can be made up into very good fruit preserves. We think quite likely, if we knew all about the ingredients of many other articles of diet, we might, perhaps, lose our relish for them.

As a rule, well water of about fifty degrees is plenty cold enough to use in washing butter, but during the winter a few degrees warmer will do.

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THE HOUSEHOLD

DOMESTIC WORK.

HERE is one way to solve, at least partly, the vexed question of domestic help, and that is to make the social position of the kitchen girl a better one, so that intelligent American women can do housework without loss of self respect. There is one sure way also to do that, and it is to let the kitchen girl be graduated from a school of domestic science, as other girls are now graduated from schools of telegraphy, stenography and bookkeeping or from institutions where professional nurses are trained. Until the day of the nurse's training school her profession was not a profession at all, but a haphazard business given over to Sairy Gamps and Betsy Prigs, who stood very low indeed in the social scale. Now the smart, refined, trained nurse in her pretty, immaculately clean uniform is the social equal of any other professional person.

The like thing would undoubtedly happen in case of the girl who does domestic work if she took a course in a school of perfect housekeeping and at the end received a diploma certifying that she is a refined, intelligent woman who knows her business and will mind it. The disrepute into which domestic service has fallen is partly owing to the ignorance of those who do it. The raw, green girl who comes to us from the peasant class of other lands may have all the virtues of a perfect American housekeeper, but they are undeveloped. Many of these girls come from homes which have mud floors and know almost nothing, even of personal cleanliness.

These girls can secure work at good wages the moment they touch our shores, though quite ignorant of the tidy requirements of American housework. The abundance of employers makes them extremely independent and tends to develop alike impudence and slatternliness.

Suppose, now, American clubwomen should establish in each of the large cities of the Union a school for training in domestic work, confining its scope strictly to that. There would be courses in cookery, laundry work, chamber work and house cleaning. With modern improved domestic utensils, machines and implements household labor may be now made much easier than formerly it was. The first course in the model training school should be the inculcation of cleanliness as the foundation of all the rest. This probably would be the hardest course in which to train the housework student. At the end of the prescribed term of instruction, lasting, say, one to two years, there would go out from



MRS. RUSSELL SAGE.

the school a young woman who would make of household work what the trained nurse has made of attendance on the sick.

Mrs. Russell Sage, whose head is packed full of good, hard common sense, is an advocate of as well as a worker for a school of domestic labor like that suggested. She is president of a board of women who nurse to

school for household workers. The ladies expect to connect with the institution an employment agency for their graduates and others. Mrs. Sage has made a study of domestic science and domestic help. She is freer from snobbery than most women with millions at their command would be, and she realizes perfectly that a kitchen girl is a human being with feelings, impulses and even prejudices much like those of the lady who employs her. Take domestic service out of the domain of rough labor and elevate it to the dignity of a trade, is the conclusion wise Mrs. Russell Sage has reached. To this end, under her lead, intelligent ladies, like herself, of the kind that do things, are working.

An association of ladies some years ago established a school of housework in Philadelphia which has done noble service in improving the domestic help of that city.

There is such a thing as æsthetic housework. The gentle Quaker women, the quiet Shaker sisters, with their exquisite housekeeping, have shown that. From even the artistic viewpoint there is something beautiful in a house shining clean and in order from top to bottom. The girl graduate of the housekeeping school will understand household sanitation and hygienic cookery. She will attain such dignity that she will be able to enjoy regular hours of labor and have some time for herself.

DORA BELLE DENISON.

A RANCH GIRL.

If an eastern college girl should spend a year on a western cattle or horse ranch and avail herself of the opportunities she would have for acquiring knowledge she would learn quite as much as in the best year of university life. The learning of the college might be classical; that of the ranch would be distinctly practical, and the twelve months spent thus would probably be the most healthful year of her life—free, noble and independent. In truth, not a few of the gifted and noted young women of today—artists, actresses, singers and others—took their rise and spent their early girlhood in the broad region where one's nearest neighbor is sometimes miles away and where it is wicked not to be well.

Athletic development now being fashionable among women, we need not be astonished at any exhibition of muscular strength and skill on the part of the feminine sex. We need not be surprised

really, you know, when Miss Lucille Mulhall, a mere slip of a girl eighteen years old, wins the first prize of \$1,000 over the most skilled cowboys in the southwest in a champion steer roping contest at South McAlester, I. T. Women could have done the like all along.

It is of interest to know that the girl who won the prize, Miss Mulhall, affectionately called "Bossie" by her intimates, is a refined, well educated, accomplished young lady, who knows Latin and mathematics and can play the piano exquisitely as well as dance like a fairy. Besides this she is an expert rifle shot and is said to have killed a prairie wolf at very long range. It is plain that cowboy accomplishments do not interfere with social and educational ones; on the contrary.

Miss Mulhall's father, Zack Mulhall, owns and lives on a large ranch in Oklahoma, and there his two daughters, Lucille, or "Bossie," and Agnes, received the cowboy part of their education. It is pleasant to know their father encouraged their acquirement of practical ranch knowledge and skill, considering that no gymnastic training for his girls could be better than cowboy athletics. Therefore they learned to gallop like mad after a herd, to "cut out" and rope a wild steer and to throw and tie it as well.

At the agricultural fairs in the ranch region the cattle roping contests are a regular part of the entertainments. In the southwestern territories there is annually a great cowboy tournament, where the cattlemen show their courage, strength and skill in competitive exhibitions. A great number of the spriest, wildest steers the country affords are driven to the grounds and put inside the inclosure ready for the sport. The yearly contest draws cowboys and spectators not only from Indian and Oklahoma territories, but from Texas and from states to the north and west. It was in this tournament that Miss Mulhall won her laurels

over the bravest, most skillful lariat throwers in the land.

The steers are selected by lot, so that the girl "Bossie" had no advantage at all over her masculine competitors. The conditions were that each contestant should rope, throw and tie three steers, one after the other, and the person who did this in the quickest time should be the winner. The most difficult part comes perhaps after the animal is "roped." The long, coiled, snakelike lariat has to be hurled at the steer in full gallop. It must either catch him square over the horns or else be neatly thrown around one of his flying heels. In either case, with the help of the trained cow pony, the creature is thrown and tangled in the rope. Then, quick as lightning, the rider must dismount, run to the struggling steer and



THE GIRL-COWBOY.

He is nim fast, so he cannot rise and run away.

All this Miss Mulhall accomplished three times and did it more quickly than any of the men contestants. It was a fair and square victory. One steer she roped, threw and tied in forty seconds, and that was her quickest time. It is not, however, quite equal to the champion record, which is a few seconds under hers.

At the contest Miss Mulhall rode astride on her favorite cow pony, which had been trained for the sport. She has always ridden astride, for no sidesaddle would be safe in the rough riding which cow people must do. It may be mentioned that quite recently some of the most popular young ladies of New York's exclusive set have given up the sidesaddle and appeared bravely riding astride.

MARY EDITH DAY.

EASY FANCY WORK.

The shops are full of fancy pieces, and the working of some of the designs makes an attractive occupation for the leisure hours of winter.

Take the sideboard cloth in the illustration, for instance. It is made of sea green linen, and as the design is of convolvuli, pale pink and purple wash linen thread should be used. The three lines on the edge should be done in heavy satin stitch. Crewel stitch, satin stitch and an ordinary filling in comprise its stitches.

A sachel for amateur photographs ought to be large enough to hold pictures of houses and scenery and pretty enough to be an ornament to the table. One of these was made recently of ivory satin. The cover, painted to resemble an old illumination, had a border of conventional tudor roses and fleur-de-lis, while in quaint lettering was the well known line:

The quality of mercy is not strained. A very good quotation for an amateur photographer.

The practical girl embroiders during the winter months white linen turnover collars and cuffs in button stitch. These will look very smart on her white shirt waists next summer. She even, if she is very ambitious, embroiders for herself a white linen dress, robe patterns of which already stamped may be purchased at any fancy work store. ALICE EVANS FANNING.

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Fort Worth, Texas.

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Age alone supplies experience and it has been the good fortune of the Ross-Armstrong company to have as its members, gentlemen of long experience and unquestioned ability in their particular line of business, and those with a full knowledge of the essentials requisite to the construction of absolutely reliable and durable instruments. Any purchaser can be assured of getting full value for the sum invested in an instrument if purchased from a concern of this character.

Any good grade of piano or organ from the plain instrument of good quality at low price, to the most elegant and attractive instrument of highest quality and price, can be had at any time from the Ross-Armstrong company. Pianos of upright, cabinet grand, and concert grand styles, in all finishes, such as mahogany, walnut, antique oak, burl walnut and San Domingo mahogany, can be furnished to those who desire such, at reasonable terms and lowest prices. "The best that money can buy in all grades, and every instrument fully guaranteed," is their motto.

Pianos are not sent out on trial. When you buy a piano from Ross-Armstrong company, you get a piano fully guaranteed and do not take any chances of buying a piano that has been on trial in half a dozen houses. You get a new unused piano that is not the refused and damaged instrument from some one else. A child can buy from them with the same safety that an older person can.

(Clipping from Fort Worth Telegram):

"The strict uniformity of prices and the high integrity of the concern makes it possible for a child to buy a musical instrument from Ross-Armstrong company with the same safety of an experienced grown person.

"The Ross-Armstrong company music house is one institution in our city that will treat a laborer the same as a crowned head in the purchase of a musical instrument. They have been known to our people for years."

Music is said to be "the language of the soul." It is true that it inspires to higher purposes, and has a refining and elevating influence. It is an introduction to the better circles of society and makes friends with good people everywhere. In buying a musical instrument the thoughtful parent will not fail to consider these things in the best interest of their children.

A liberal plan of purchase is offered to those who bear good reputations for paying their obligations. The so-called, irresponsible "agent," who has neither character nor reputation, does not handle the instruments of the Ross-Armstrong company. These instruments are not of the inferior class that are "trafficked" around for any and all kinds of "trade" but are of that high class of instruments that appeal to those who buy fine instruments and appreciate them.

Those buying by correspondence who live at a distance can rest assured that they will get as fine selections as if they were present in person to see for themselves.

When purchases are made by correspondence, parties have the advantage of having everything, fully written down so no possible misunderstanding can arise. The attention of cash buyers at all times is invited with a guarantee to them of full value for their money. ROSS-ARMSTRONG CO., Pianos, Piano Players, Pipe Organs, Church and Parlor Organs, 711 Houston street, Fort Worth, Tex.

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THOUGHTS OF EXPERIENCE.

This department is designed as a forum for the free interchange of ideas between farmers and stockmen. The Journal desires to hear from its friends at any time and will publish all communications of general interest under this head.

CURE FOR RUNNING SORE.

Chickasha, I. T., Dec. 26.

Editor Stock Journal.

A week or two ago I saw a letter in your experience department from a man who said his mare had sustained a cut or wound in the breast, and asked for a remedy. I would suggest that he wash out the injured spot with warm water and castile soap and apply a lotion made by dissolving six drams of white vitriol and an ounce of sugar of lead in a quart of water, twice daily. Should the wound appear raw on the outside, use a powder made by mixing two drams of tannic acid with a half cupful of air-slaked lime pulverized. I have found this a most effective remedy. There is no better method of reducing inflammation and healing up a sore that I know of. Yours truly,

C. H.

INABILITY EXPLAINED.

Sonora, Tex., Dec. 27.

Editor of the Journal.

In my paper, which came to hand Thursday, I note a complaint from "An Old Subscriber," San Saba, Tex., about the inability of a fine Cotswold ram which he recently purchased. The trouble may not be due, as he imagines, to any impotency on the part of the animal. Perhaps it is attributable to the extreme height of the ewes. A sheep writer tells of a neighbor who missed nearly his whole lamb crop and laid the blame to his ram, and on careful consideration of the case, it was found that the low bodied ram was quite unable to reach the leggy ewes, and all his efforts, of course, went for nothing. The remedy lies in seeing to it that the rams and ewes are well mated in point of size and conformation. Respectfully,

E. F.

SCIENTIFIC CATTLE FEEDING.

Regarding the preparations which are being made at the Texas A. and M. college for the scientific feeding of cattle on a large scale, Dean J. A. Craig reports:

"We are planning the work of experimenting in the feeding of all classes of stock. We want to demonstrate the value of Texas range cattle, and show that it is not necessary for Texans to ship their cattle north to have them fed. The feeders that come from the ranges of Texas have made quite a reputation in the North, as for instance the 'J. A.' cattle at the recent Chicago Livestock exposition. We not only want to show that we have the cattle, but that the state has profitable feed as well.

"The work will consist of demonstrating the value of the by-products of our leading crops, cotton, rice and sugar cane, as food for cattle. We are somewhat handicapped, though, for the lack of funds, but where there's a will there is a way, and we expect to find a way somehow or other. We are interesting the cattlemen of the state, and several with whom I have come in contact give me encouragement. We are explaining what we hope to do at College Station, and we find that the cattlemen are with us. The opportunities here now are far more encouraging than they were in Iowa and Wisconsin when I was there.

"We have 2400 acres of land at the college, and with some improvements in barns, etc., we will be in a position to do as good work as is done at the colleges in Iowa, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Minnesota or other states. We must have the animals to show the boys. It means a great deal to the cattle industry of the state, and we want to be able to go to Chicago with animals that will compare favorably with anybody's. Some of our boys are very much interested in the work; they are taking hold of it right, and we have every rea-

son to believe when we get organized we will be showing good results.

"We are not going to use cattle solely for our demonstrations, however, but we intend to use sheep and hogs, also. We want to show that we can fatten sheep with our winter conditions here as cheaply as in Colorado and New Mexico, where they have alfalfa and corn. Especial attention will be given to the cultivation of green fodder crops in winter, on which we may fatten sheep and hogs. I have not the least doubt that we can fatten hogs and sheep in the winter by growing certain crops. We want to equip our college with the very best breeds of this class of livestock. We already have four leading breeds of hogs and some few sheep.

"I want to say that not only are we experimenting with beef cattle, but we also have a herd of 150 dairy cattle on which we are experimenting with by-products as a feed. From time to time we will publish the result of our experiments in bulletin form, and any one interested can get them sent to their address by writing to me at the college."

FISTULA FORMS ABOVE HOOF

Gainesville, Tex., Dec. 24.

Mr. S. R. Williams, Editor: Dear Sir—I am troubled about the condition of my driving mare, and fear that, if prompt remedies are not applied, she will be permanently lame. A fistula appears to have formed just at the top of the hoof, and I am inclined to believe that it resulted from some injury. There is seemingly a bag of pus where the growth has formed, and it appears to cause much pain and annoyance. What ailment is this, and how can it be cured? Please print this letter in your paper, as some one of your many readers has probably had similar trouble, and may be able to give me advice that will be of value. Wishing you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year, I am sincerely yours,

J. A. N.

FRUIT AND TRUCK PROFITABLE.

Farmers in the Naples neighborhood have been demonstrating during the past season what they can accomplish in the way of diversification. At frequent meetings, held under auspices of the Truck Grower's association, they obtained much useful information, which has stood them in good stead.

D. C. Russell planted an acre in tomatoes, the gross receipts from which were \$135. The expenses of production and marketing were as follows: For fertilizer, \$6; cost of planting, \$3.25; rent of land, \$4; crates, \$3.45; cultivation and marketing, \$20; total, \$36.70, leaving a net profit of \$98.30 from one acre of land.

The previous year Mr. Russell had two and one-half acres in potatoes, from which he made, clear of all expenses, \$134.15, or at the rate of \$53.66 per acre. After gathering his potato crop he planted an acre of the same land in peanuts, upon which he raised a fine herd of young hogs. The rest of the land was planted in stock peas, from which he cut and put up sixty-five bales of hay of the finest quality.

T. Galloway, another "Neapolitan" farmer, this year had in two acres of potatoes, the expenses of which, including cost of seed, fertilizer, cultivation (including planting), sacks and marketing, amounted to \$79.20. He sold 299 bushels for \$275, leaving a net profit of \$195.80, or \$97.90 per acre. These two acres had shortly before been set in peach trees, and Spanish peanuts were planted along each row of trees, of which crop no accurate account was kept, but Mr. Galloway thinks they were worth \$30 or more. After the potatoes were harvested one and one-half acres of the land was planted in corn and stock peas, from which forty bushels of fine corn were gathered. The remaining half acre was planted in sweet potatoes, turnips, and second crop Irish potatoes, and made as good a return in net profit as it did the first crop of potatoes, or very nearly \$200 net per acre.

On another plot of three acres planted in potatoes, which plot, like the other, was also set in young peach trees, Mr. Galloway realized about the same for his crop, i. e., nearly \$98 net per acre. After harvesting the pota-

toes he planted a crop of cotton on the ground and made two bales and 100 pounds of seed cotton over, or nearly two and two-thirds bales. The cotton was sold for 10 1/4 to 11 cents a pound.

Last year O. M. Willis raised 100 bushels of potatoes per acre, which, after deducting all expenses of production, netted him \$48 per acre. This year, on account of a late and very wet season, he made only \$28 an acre.

J. H. Seagraves made last year from one acre 110 bushels of potatoes, and his net profit was \$58. On the same land he planted a crop of stock peas from which his net profit was \$20, or a total of \$130 net on one acre in one year. This year, the spring being very wet, he only cleared \$36 per acre on his potato crop, but planted the land in cotton after the potato harvest, and made one bale, weighing 519 pounds, which he sold for 10 1/2 cents a pound.

Judge J. H. Matthews raised 800 bushels of potatoes last spring in a ten-acre peach orchard. This fall a volunteer crop appeared, which produced over 200 bushels of very fine tubers, which he sold for the best market price.

F. W. Baker, another Morris county diversifier, besides making a fine crop of ribbon cane syrup had one-sixth of an acre in potatoes, from which, after bountifully supplying his family, he sold \$14.70 worth. On a part of the same land he planted turnips this fall, and up to Dec. 13 he had sold \$13.35 worth and still had forty bushels on hand, which he is now selling at 60 cents a bushel. On the rest of the land he planted a second crop of potatoes in August, which were plowed but one time and yielded at the rate of 100 bushels per acre. This farm, as most of those above mentioned, is high sandy upland.

Intelligent fertilization of the soil and careful cultivation are the agencies which have brought about these results, which are a revelation to the men engaged in agriculture through that section of the state.

The best way to insure success in hog raising is to stick tenaciously to the business, whether prices be high or low.

Tutt's Pills

will save the dyspeptic from many days of misery, and enable him to eat whatever he wishes. They prevent

SICK HEADACHE,

cause the food to assimilate and nourish the body, give keen appetite,

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F. W. AXTELL,

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Forty Centuries look down upon a perfected mode of travel

THE KATY FLYER

MARKETS

FORT WORTH.

Cattle receipts at the Fort Worth market continue light, as nearly all the rangers have been sold off. The present run consists principally of fed steers and butcher stock. Prices are between 10 and 15 cents higher than the close last week. The supply of hogs is unusually small, with market from 10 to 15 cents above recent bids. Quotations:

	Top.	Bulk.
Steers	\$3.30	\$3.15@3.00
Cows	2.50	2.40@2.30
Bulls	2.40	1.80
Hogs	4.75	4.75

The supply of livestock was light at Fort Worth all last week on account of Christmas. Prices, as reported by the Barse Livestock Commission company, averaged 10 to 15 cents higher. The calf market was strong for good stock and fed steers averaging 1100 pounds and up which sold at \$3.35 to \$3.70. Fed muttons are selling well and the hog market fluctuates around \$4.40 to \$4.62½. Some improvements in market condition are looked for.

The National company reports receipts Christmas week about the smallest in the history of the yards, with cattle prices ruling steady to strong. Sheep were steady all last week, under light receipts. Hog receipts were heavier than the week preceding, the market having shown some weakness but rallying and closing about steady.

KANSAS CITY.

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 28.—Cattle receipts were 8000 head, including 400 Southern, steady to 15c lower. Export and dressed beef steers \$4.00@4.60, fair to good \$2.35@3.45, Western fed steers \$3.25@4.00, stockers and feeders \$2.50@4.00, Southern steers \$2.40@3.70, Southern cows \$1.50@2.50, native cows \$1.50@3.90, native heifers \$2.50@4.00, bulls \$2.00@3.40, calves \$2.25@3.75. Hog receipts were 3000 head; 10@15c higher. Top \$4.77½, bulk \$4.60@4.77½, heavy \$4.60@4.77½, packers \$4.60@4.75, pigs and lights \$4.25@4.60. Sheep receipts were 1300 head. Market steady to 10c higher. Native lambs \$4.50@5.50, Western lambs \$4.25@5.50, fed ewes \$2.75@3.60, Western fed yearlings \$3.50@4.10, stockers and feeders \$2.00@3.50.

There was an extremely light run of cattle at Kansas City last week, the result being that recent losses were more than regained. Hog prices gained about 20 cents and sheep have partly recovered, with stockers and feeders scarce. A feature of the market was the arrival of a bunch of stock ewes and wethers from Van Horn, Tex., which brought \$2.25 for the former and \$2.50 for the latter.

ST. LOUIS.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 28.—Cattle receipts were 3500 head, including 1200 Texans. Steady to strong. Native shipping and export steers \$4.25@5.45, strictly fancy \$5.60 dressed beef and butcher steers \$4.00@5.25, steers under 1000 pounds \$3.50@5.25, stockers and feeders \$2.15@3.75, cows and heifers \$2.25@4.25, canners \$2.00@3.30, bulls \$2.65@4.00, natives \$3.00@6.75, Texas and Indian steers \$2.45@4.25, cows and heifers \$2.15@2.80. Hog receipts were 4000 head; 10c higher, closed shade lower. Pigs and lights \$4.35@4.55, packers \$4.50@4.70, butchers and best heavy \$4.65@4.85. Sheep receipts were 1200 head; strong. Native muttons \$3.25@6.00, lambs \$4.25@5.50, culls and bucks \$2.00@4.00, stockers \$2.00@3.00.

Under extremely light receipts last week the St. Louis live stock market advanced 40 to 50 cents on fed steers and fed cows ranged about a quarter higher, with the better grade of grass cattle 15 to 20 cents up and common light weights about steady. Good choice calves are quotable around \$8.50 and \$9.00 per head, with well-bred feeders also in demand.

CHICAGO.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 28.—Cattle receipts were 26,000 head; steady. Good to

prime steers \$4.90@5.80, poor to medium \$3.25@4.75, stockers and feeders \$2.00@4.00, cows \$1.50@4.00, heifers \$2.00@4.85, canners \$1.50@2.40, bulls \$2.00@4.10, calves \$3.00@6.50. Hog receipts were 25,000 head; 10 higher. Good to choice heavy \$4.70@4.90, light \$4.35@4.65, bulk \$4.55@4.75. Sheep receipts were 20,000 head; strong, firm. Good to choice wethers \$3.80@4.25, fair to choice mixed \$3.00@3.75, Western sheep \$2.50@4.25, native lambs \$4.50@6.00, Western lambs \$3.75@5.90.

ST. JOSEPH.

Late advices from St. Joseph, Mo., report receipts of cattle there the lowest since last June, with a consequent radical change for the better in prices, which gained from 25 to 60 cents, with good offerings selling to the best advantage. Hogs ruled higher, with good demand at the increase and the general run-desirable. Good fat sheep are in demand, but common offerings weak and dull.

GALVESTON.

(Reported by the A. P. Norman Live Stock Company.) Galveston, Tex., Dec. 26.

To The Journal: Market fairly supplied with stock and but little trading anticipated until after the holiday season. Quotations: Beeves, good to choice, \$2.75@3.00; common to fair, \$2.25@2.50. Cows, good to choice, \$2.50@2.75; common to fair, \$2.00@2.25. Yearlings, good to choice, \$2.75@3.00; common to fair, \$2.25@2.50. Calves, good to choice, \$3.25@3.50; common to fair, \$2.50@3.00. Hogs, corn fed, \$5.00@5.50; mast fed, \$3.50@4.00. Sheep, good to choice, \$4.00@4.50; common to fair, \$1.50@2.00.

New Orleans, La., Dec. 24, 1903.

Receipts of good steers were plentiful the past week; the butchers are fully supplied; and it will not be advisable to ship this class for a few days.

Fat cows and choice calves were in moderate receipts with prices steady all the week, but poor calves were in heavy supply and with a limited demand there were a good many of this kind carried over at close.

The outlook is good for fat cows and fat calves, but we would caution shippers not to ship poor calves as they are hard to sell and prices are low. CROWLEY, PERRIN CO., Ltd.

PRODUCE MARKET.

GENERAL MARKETS.

Wool, Hides and Tallow.

Prices paid shippers: Hides—Dry flint heavy butcher 13¼c, dry flint heavy fallen 12¼c, light dry 10¼c, heavy dry salt 10¼c, light dry salt 9¼c, green salt, 35 lbs. and up 6¼c, under 35 lbs. 5¼c; dead green, 40 lbs. and up 5¼c, under 40 lbs. 4¼c. Wool—Bright medium 15@16c, heavy fine 10@12c. Tallow—Prime No. 1 4c, No. 2 3c. Furs—Raccoon 25@40c, skunk 20@30c, mink 25@60c, opossum 15@20c.

Fruits.

Prices from store: Apples—Fancy \$4.25@5.50 bbl., Russet \$4.50 bbl., Greenings \$4.25 bbl., Cal. Red Pearmain \$1.75 box, Colo. Ben Davis \$1.45 box. Grapes—Malaga \$5.00@5.50 bbl., Catawba 4-lb. basket 25c, Cranberries—\$9.50 bbl., \$5.00 ½-bbl.

Country Produce.

Prices paid shippers: Poultry—Old hens \$2.75@3.00 doz., roosters \$1.50@1.75, large fryers \$2.50@3.00, medium \$2.00@2.50. Turkeys 8c lb. Geese—\$5.00@6.00. Guineas—\$1.50 doz. Ducks—\$3.50@3.75 doz. Country Butter—17@22¼c lb. Eggs—Country 20@22¼c doz. Honey—Strained 10@15c, comb 15@20c.

Dairy Products.

Prices from store. Butter—Creamery 24@25c lb., country 18@25c. Cheese—Daisies, single and full cream 15c; Longsorns, single cream 15c; Swiss 25@26, imitation Swiss 15c; brick cheese 10@15c.

Vegetables.

Prices from store: Parsley—30c doz. Cabbage—3c. Turnip—39@40c doz. bch., 1½@2c qb. Potatoes—Greely 85@90c. Colo. Burbanks 85@90c. Green onions—30@40c doz. Carrots—2c lb., new 30@40c doz. bch. Tomatoes—Cal. \$1.75 4-

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basket crate Texas \$1.00@1.25 crate. Peas—English—75@80c 1-3-bu. box. Green Beans—75c 1-3-bu. box, wax 65@75c. Pumpkins—75c@1.00 doz. Lettuce—25@40c doz. Radishes—15@25c doz. bch. Beets—30@40c doz. bch. Parsnips—2½c lb. Celery—Cal. 50@75c bch. Cauliflower—2½c lb. Cal. \$3.00@3.50 crate. Sweet Potatoes—55@65 bu., Pumpkin Yams 60@75c bu. Kohlrabi—40c doz. bch.

Feedstuffs.

Prices paid in car lots—Prices from store 5@10c more per 100 lbs. on bran, 2@3c on corn and oats per bu. and 10@15c on hay. Hay—Johnson grass \$8.50-9.00, prairie \$9.10@10.50. Bran—95c. Corn chops—\$1.05 per 100 lbs. Corn—Shelled 60c, ear 55c. Oats—48@50c bu. Wheat—From wagons. No. 2 85c, No. 3 84c, No. 4 82c, rejected 78@81c. Alfalfa—\$15.50@16.50. Cotton Seed Meal—\$21.00 ton.

COTTON MARKET.

GALVESTON SPOTS.

Galveston, Tex., Dec. 28.—Spot cotton firm, ¾c up. Sales 2261 bales spot. Low ordinary 10, ordinary 10½, good ordinary 11 13-16, low middling 12½, middling 13½, good middling 13½, middling fair 14½.

HOUSTON SPOTS.

Houston, Tex., Dec. 28.—Spot cotton steady, ¾c up. Sales 2321 bales spot. Ordinary 10½; good ordinary 11½, low middling 13, middling 13½, good middling 14½, middling fair 14½.

NEW ORLEANS SPOTS.

New Orleans, La., Dec. 28.—Spot cotton buyers and sellers apart; ¾c advance. Sales 450 bales spot. The closing prices: Ordinary 10 15-16, good ordinary 12½, low middling 13½, middling 13½, good middling 13 13-16, middling fair 14 3-16.

NEW YORK SPOTS.

New York, Dec. 28.—Spot cotton quiet, 40 up. Sales 4100 bales. The closing prices: Good-ordinary 13.10, low middling 13.72, middling 14.10, good middling 14.54, middling fair 15.06, fair 15.84.

LIVERPOOL SPOTS.

Liverpool, Dec. 28.—Spot cotton steady, 28 up. Sales 3000 bales, of which 2700 were American and 300 went to exporters and speculators. Imports 6900 bales, of which 62,400 were American. Tenders 17,100 bales new. The closing prices: Ordinary prices 7.10, good ordinary 7.30, low middling 7.40, middling 7.46, good middling 7.56, middling fair 7.72.

Another big ranch in the San Angelo country has been sold for the purpose of cutting the land up into small farms. J. N. McLeod transferred the land, consisting of 3317 acres, to J. C. Peterson for \$26,000.

PEACE ON EARTH!

Beeville, Tex., Dec. 25, 1903. The Texas Stock Journal, Fort Worth, Tex. Gentlemen: Peace on earth and good will to men in general, and the Stock Journal in particular.

I have received from you without explanation one pretty little watch, which we conclude must be a present and accept the same with pride and pleasure and say many

thanks for the same. Well, I tell you there is no prouder boy in 9 counties than mine over the watch. I told him it was direct from you, that you had heard he was a good boy and sent it to him for a Xmas present. He wishes me to also thank you.

We down here are all in pretty good shape and, we do not have to sell any cotton at the present price.

Our farmers are showing their prosperity by buying buggies, etc., the result of the good prices in cotton.

Wishing the Journal continued success. Very respectfully, ROBT. HOWARD.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC STEAMSHIPS.

Mr. A. B. Weaver, a prominent citizen of Beaumont, is in the city to-day. Mr. Weaver states that Beaumont is thriving and indications for future thrift are very flattering, says the Houston Chronicle. Speaking of the Southern Pacific steamship service, recently inaugurated, Mr. Weaver said he was among the first patrons of this service and would continue as such during the balance of his life.

"There's nothing equal to the Southern Pacific steamship service anywhere," said he. "It not only makes schedule time, but passengers are made to feel like they were guests of honor all the time, and a trip on one of the Southern Pacific's steamships is a rare treat indeed."

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A great luxury. Succeed everywhere, and ripen in 80 days; perfectly delicious, keep fresh all winter. Don't miss A. T. Cook's remarkable offer.

DENVER ROAD CHANGES.

"The Denver Road," (The Ft. Worth & Denver City Ry. Co.) announces several changes in the schedule of its passenger trains, which recently took effect:

Going North—Their popular Mail and Express, No. 1, leaving Ft. Worth at 9:45 a. m., will be operated through the winter on the same schedule as heretofore, having the same equipment, namely: Through coaches, Cafe Car and Sleeper. Ft. Worth to Trinidad, Pueblo, Colorado Springs and Denver.

No. 3, local accommodation, Ft. Worth to Wichita Falls, leaving Ft. Worth at 6:00 p. m., discontinued for the present.

No. 7, which formerly left Ft. Worth at 11:10 p. m., now leaves at 8:40 p. m., and is operated only as far as Amarillo, arriving there at 9:20 a. m., making close connections with the Pecos Valley lines, for Canyon City and Roswell. This train carries sleeper from Ft. Worth to Amarillo.

Going South—No. 8, formerly operated from Denver, Colo., to Ft. Worth, arriving at the latter place at 6:00 a. m., is now in service from Amarillo to Ft. Worth, ONLY, arriving at Ft. Worth 7:25 a. m., daily. This train carries sleeper Amarillo to Ft. Worth.

No. 4, local accommodation from Wichita Falls, arriving Ft. Worth 9:55 a. m., discontinued for the present.

No. 2, through mail and express from Denver, Colorado Springs, Pueblo and Trinidad, is operated on the old schedule, arriving at Ft. Worth 5:10 p. m., maintaining connections with other lines for all Texas points, also for the old States.

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WISHES FOR THE READERS OF THE JOURNAL

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

We wish to thank our many friends for the patronage given us during the year 1903, and hope our service and close attention to the interests of customers has been such that we may continue to receive their consignments.

We extend a cordial invitation to every one to call on us and to write or wire us for any information regarding any matter in connection with the marketing of Live Stock.



JAMES H. CAMPBELL.



JOHN K. ROSSON.

THE TEXAS MEADOWLARK.

An article on the value of the meadowlark to the farmers of Texas has been prepared by William Dutcher, chairman of the protection committee of the American Ornithologists' Union, who writes:

The Texas meadowlark (hoopoe) is found from Southern and Western Texas through Southern New Mexico and Arizona.

Its nest is placed beside a tuft of grass or at the foot of a weed stalk in a natural depression, or one made by the birds in a meadow or prairie; it is built of coarse grasses or weed stalks lined with finer material of the same kind and is usually well hidden by a dome or roof.

The eggs are white, spotted and speckled with brown, purple and lavender. Usual number five, varying from three to seven.

The people whose homes are among the green fields need no one to tell them of the aesthetic value of the meadowlark. It is claimed that the song of the prairie bird far exceeds in volume and sweetness that of its eastern brother of the meadows, but the wild sweet song of either leaves an impress on the mind of the hearer that can never be effaced. However, the beauty of the meadowlark's plumage and the sweetness of its song are far less important to the human race than its value as an insect destroyer.

It is probable that there are few birds as valuable to the farmer as the meadowlark, as it is entirely terrestrial in its habits, procuring almost its entire food supply from insect life harmful to meadows and prairie lands.

An analysis of the food of the meadow lark leads one to wonder how a farmer can act so much against his own interests as to allow one of these birds to be shot on premises which he controls.

The following tables from data furnished by the biological survey, United States Department of Agriculture, give a graphic description of the food these birds are to the agricultural folk:

Month.	Stomach Exm'd.	Animal Food.	Weed Grains.	To-Seed.
January ..	13	24.36	75.23	.36 100
Feb.	1	.00	25.00	75.00 100
March	12	73.14	17.00	9.86 100
April	28	77.51	15.10	7.39 100
May	8	97.99	1.88	.13 100
June	20	95.79	2.10	2.11 100
July	18	97.32	.00	2.68 100
August ...	28	99.35	.00	.65 100
Sept.	29	99.20	.40	.40 100
October ...	40	94.39	.61	5.00 100
November ..	22	77.08	6.50	16.42 100
December .	19	89.22	32.70	28.08 100
Year	238	*72.95	*1471	*12.34 *100

*Per cent.

No. 1. Orthoptera.—Red-legged grasshoppers, meadow grasshoppers, other grasshoppers, crickets.

No. 2. Coleoptera.—Weevil, billbug, curculio, clover weevil, fire-fly family, lady birds, scarred snout beetle, leaf-eating beetle, flea beetle, darkling beetle, rove beetle, longcorn beetle, tiger beetle, May beetle, ground beetle, click beetle.

No. 3. Lepidoptera.—Butterflies, moths, cutworm, armyworm.

No. 4. Hemiptera.—Stilt bug, soldier bug, assassin bug, chinch bug, spittle insects, tree hoppers, jumping plant lice.

No. 5. Hymenoptera.—Ants, wasps, stinging ants, ichneumon flies.

No. 6. Miscellaneous Animal Food.—Ticks, snails, thousand legs, small batrachians, sowbugs, spiders and cocoons.

No. 7. Grain.—Clover, wheat, corn, oats.

No. 8. Seeds of Weeds.—Pigeon grass, panic grass, smart weed, rag weed, Gromwell seed, black mustard, bayberry.

The figures show that nearly three-quarters of the meadowlark's food for the year is composed of insects, over 12 per cent is weed seeds, and 15 per cent is grain. However, an examination of the food by months shows that all of the great that is eaten is gleaned from stubble fields in the months of January, February, March, April and December. After the month of May, when the grain is ripening and is being harvested, none is eaten by meadowlarks. The favorite food is insects when they can be obtained; for six months of the year the amount being over 90 per cent and during August and September over 99 per cent. Even during the winter months, when insect life is dormant, the meadowlark finds enough that is hidden below the surface of the ground or secreted among the grass to furnish a very considerable portion of its diet. An examination of the table showing the actual kind of food found in the 238 stomachs gives further proof of the immense economic value of the meadowlark. Grasshoppers and crickets compose over 25 per cent of its food, while an equally large share is made up of beetles, among them weevils, curculio, and click beetles, these latter being known as wireworms, when they often destroy seed before it has germinated, thus ruining fields of corn and other grain at the outset. Meadowlarks also destroy cutworms, armyworms and numbers of the pest known as chinch bug. This latter has destroyed in the United States during the last half century grain to the value

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of over \$330,000,000. In some of the Southern States, notably in Georgia, the meadowlark is called the wheat-bird, as it is claimed it destroys wheat; however, the scientific study of its food proves this to be an unfounded and erroneous claim. Fortunately, the meadowlark is protected by law in all parts of the country except in the following States, viz: Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, Missouri and Idaho.

The agriculturists of these States should insist that this valuable bird be given absolute protection, for by doing so millions of insect pests will be destroyed daily, and hundreds of thousands of dollars will be saved, which would otherwise be lost.

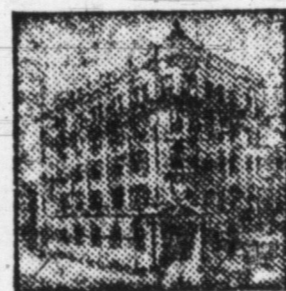
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The desirability of securing fresh alfalfa seed from the locality where alfalfa is grown in the greatest abundance must be apparent to all.

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